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ABSTRACT

Short biographical sketches and drawings of 30 prominent Mexican Americans are presented in this book of reading exercises. Written on a fourth or fifth grade level, the book includes figures representing a variety of occupations and fields of achievement: the arts, sports, business, journalism, education, entertainment, literature, medicine, law, labor, public service, religion and the military. Those chosen reflect and exemplify the contributions of Mexican Americans regionally and nationally. Although the selection is largely contemporary, a few of Mexico's prominent historical figures are also included. Among the figures included are Robert J. Acosta, Romana Acosta Banuelos, Cantinflas, Vikki Carr, Cesar Chavez, Josefa Ortiz de Dominguez, Patrick F. Flores, Clotilde P. Garcia, and Jim Plunkett. A one-page narrative on each personality provides material for practice reading. Each selection is accompanied by exercises for reinforcing comprehension skills, including discovering the main idea, identifying paragraph topics, recognizing true and false statements, and recalling factual information. Attention is also devoted to word recognition, the use of context, and extension of vocabulary. (Author/DS)

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Reading Exercises on

MEXICAN AMERICANS

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Reading Exercises on

MEXICAN AMERICANS

Félix D. Almaráz, Jr. María O. Almaráz

TO THE TEACHER

Reading Exercises on Mexican Americans presents short biographical sketches of Mexican Americans. A few of Mexico's prominent historical personalities have also been included to give the book a continental perspective. The figures treated represent a variety of occupations and fields of achievement: the arts, sports, business, journalism, education, entertainment, literature, medicine, law, labor, public service, religion, and the military. The people chosen reflect and exemplify the contributions of Mexican Americans regionally and nationally.

Since the selections in *Reading Exercises on Mexican Americans* are simply written on a fourth to fifth grade level, the book provides excellent material for practice reading. Carefully prepared exercises to reinforce comprehension skills follow each selection. The skills stressed include discovering the main idea, identifying paragraph topics, recognizing true and false statements, and recalling factual information. Equal attention is given to word recognition, the use of context, and extension of vocabulary.

A set of *Study Posters on Mexican Americans* is available. Each poster contains a large portrait of an individual, a brief resume of the person's achievements, and an appropriate action illustration.

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By Felix D. and Maria O. Almaraz
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ROBERT J. ACOSTA (1939-)

Teacher

Robert J. Acosta was born in Los Angeles, California, on April 24, 1939. Doctors soon discovered that the boy was blind. But Robert's parents didn't let that hold him back. They encouraged him to do almost everything that other children were doing. Robert went to summer camp, rode horses, and played football and basketball. He even learned how to use a bow and arrow. A buzzer near the target told him how close his shot was.

At first, Robert went to a school for the blind. Then, in seventh grade, he began to attend public school. It was a big moment for him. He was now competing with students who could see. Robert did very well. He was also well liked. In his last year, he was elected vice-president of his class.

Robert wanted a career that would help others. He chose teaching. And almost at once, he ran into problems. People didn't believe a blind person could do what was needed. Robert tried to get into several colleges, but none would take him. Finally, California State College at Los Angeles accepted him.

After Robert finished college, he once again faced the doubts of others. He searched for a job for a long time. Then a school in northern California hired him "on a trial basis." Robert was an instant success. The students admired him and liked the way he taught. Later, Robert returned to Los Angeles to teach.

Robert Acosta has often been honored for his abilities as a classroom teacher. In 1967, the California Jaycees picked him as one of five Outstanding Young Men in the state. The next year, the national Jaycees named him one of America's Ten Outstanding Young Men. Few people believed that he would be able to do so much. But through his own efforts, Robert Acosta has reached his goals and more.

Working On Your Own

DIRECTIONS: After you have read the selection, read the questions below. Shade in the circle for the best answer to questions 1—7. Write the answers to questions 8 and 9.

1. Robert Acosta _____.

	True	False
could not do much because he was blind	○	○
did well in public school	○	○
became a doctor	○	○

2. The paragraph that tells about Robert Acosta's first job is number _____.

○ 1 ○ 2 ○ 3 ○ 4 ○ 5

3. Synonyms are words that have the same, or almost the same, meaning. Example: chose and picked. Which one of these words is a synonym for allow?

○ do ○ let ○ help ○ use

4. It was _____ for Robert Acosta to go to college.

○ easy ○ silly ○ hard ○ useless

5. A mark to aim at is a _____.

○ target ○ shot ○ moment ○ camp

6. The main idea of the selection is that _____.

○ Robert J. Acosta was born blind
○ Robert J. Acosta reached his goals by becoming an excellent teacher
○ Robert J. Acosta had understanding parents

7. In paragraph one, the word bow means _____.

○ to bend ○ a weapon ○ part of a ship

8. A suffix is a letter or group of letters added to the end of a word to change the meaning of the word. The suffix er can mean "something that does." Example: holder means "something that holds." Write the word from paragraph one that is formed with the suffix er. _____ What does it mean? _____

_____

9. Write the word from paragraph four that means "liked and respected." _____

ROMANA ACOSTA BAÑUELOS (1925-)

Business Executive

On December 17, 1971, a special ceremony took place in the State Department Building in Washington, D.C. Romana Acosta Bañuelos was made the 34th Treasurer of the United States. She was the sixth woman to hold the office. And she was the first Mexican American.

Romana Acosta was born in Miami, Arizona, on March 20, 1925. Her family moved to Mexico during the Great Depression. So Romana spent her early years in Sonora and Chihuahua. When she was 20 years old, she returned to the United States. She lived in Los Angeles and worked at many different jobs. One of them was washing dishes in a restaurant.

But within four years, Romana began her career in business. With only $400, she started Romana's Mexican Food Products. Over the years, her small company grew. Within twenty years, it was worth five million dollars. During the same time, Romana married Alejandro Bañuelos and had three children.

Mrs. Bañuelos wanted to get Spanish-named Americans more involved in business. So in 1964, she opened the Pan-American National Bank. Later, she set up a yearly scholarship for Mexican Americans. Because of her contributions, she was chosen Outstanding Businesswoman of the Year in Los Angeles in 1969.

When the President of the United States appointed Mrs. Bañuelos to take the job of Treasurer, he asked her to sign her name as it would appear on all paper money while she was in office. With a firm hand, Mrs. Bañuelos wrote her signature. It would make her one of the best-known Mexican-American women in history.

Working On Your Own

DIRECTIONS: After you have read the selection, read the questions below. Shade in the circle for the best answer to questions 1—7. Write the answers to questions 8 and 9.

1. The main idea of the selection is that _____.
   - ○ Romana Bañuelos and her husband Alejandro had three children
   - ○ Romana Bañuelos is a business executive who became Treasurer of the United States
   - ○ Romana Bañuelos was born in Arizona but spent most of her childhood in Mexico

2. Antonyms are words that are opposite in meaning. Example: first and last. Which one of these words is an antonym for few?
   ○ many ○ different ○ sixth ○ later

3. Romana Bañuelos started a _____ business.
   ○ car ○ paper ○ food ○ dish-washing

4. In paragraph five, the word firm means _____.
   ○ a company ○ not soft ○ not shaky

5. Romana Bañuelos _____.

	True	False
took office in 1967	○	○
opened a bank	○	○
set up a scholarship	○	○

6. A person's life's work is his or her _____.
   ○ ceremony ○ career ○ name ○ dollars

7. The paragraph that tells about how Mrs. Bañuelos's company grew is number _____.
   ○ 1 ○ 2 ○ 3 ○ 4 ○ 5

8. A suffix is a letter or group of letters added to the end of a word to change the meaning of the word. The suffix th can be added to a number word to make it a place number word. Example: fourth means "in place number four." Write the word from paragraph one that is formed with the suffix th. _____ What does it mean? _____

9. Write the word from paragraph five that means "named to an office." _____

CANTINFLAS/MARIO MORENO (1911-)

Comedian

It's not often that a big career starts by accident. Yet that's what happened to Mario Moreno.

Mario was born in Mexico on August 12, 1911. His parents wanted him to have a good education. But Mario often seemed to have other ideas. When he was supposed to be in class, he would be out in the streets. There he would learn dance steps from whoever would teach him. Then the Morenos sent Mario to a farming school. Mario didn't stay there either. Instead he joined a *carpa,* or traveling tent show. He worked as a dancer for a dollar a day. The money wasn't enough for Mario. So he soon quit the show to become a boxer. The *carpa* got him back by promising him three dollars a day.

Then came the moment that changed Mario's whole life. One day the announcer for the tent show couldn't work. Mario had to do the job, and he was scared. The harder he tried to do well, the funnier he sounded. The crowd laughed and cheered. Finally someone yelled out, "Cállate, Cantinflas." That meant "Be quiet, you wordy fool." From then on, Mario took the name Cantinflas. And as Cantinflas, he became famous all over the world.

In 1940, Cantinflas left the *carpa* to be a comedian in movies. He became a star almost overnight. He was known by his costume. Almost always, he wore an old hat, baggy pants, a rope belt, an old coat, and a handkerchief around his neck. He made many movies in Spanish. But he also starred in English-speaking movies like *Around the World in 80 Days.*

The people of Mexico love Cantinflas. So do those in the United States, especially in the Southwest. Cantinflas became a legend. He looked awkward, but he always won in the end. Charlie Chaplin, another great comedian, has said that Cantinflas is "the world's greatest." He may well be.

Working On Your Own

DIRECTIONS: After you have read the selection, read the questions below. Shade in the circle for the best answer to questions 1—7. Write the answers to questions 8 and 9.

1. Someone who makes other people laugh is a _____.
   ○ boxer ○ announcer ○ comedian ○ dancer

2. Cantinflas _____.

	True	False
first worked in a tent show	○	○
became known by his costume	○	○
is famous only in Mexico	○	○

3. Mario Moreno got his acting name _____.
   ○ by accident ○ in the movies ○ from his parents ○ in farming school

4. Synonyms are words that have the same, or almost the same, meaning. Example: yelled and shouted. Which one of these words is a synonym for frightened?
   ○ supposed ○ looked ○ left ○ scared

5. In paragraph four, the word star means _____.
   ○ something shining in the sky ○ a figure with five points
   ○ a famous person

6. The main idea of the selection is that _____.
   ○ Cantinflas is a great and well known Mexican comedian
   ○ Mario Moreno didn't like school
   ○ *Around the World in 80 Days* is a famous movie

7. The paragraph that tells about Cantinflas acting in movies is number _____.
   ○ 1 ○ 2 ○ 3 ○ 4 ○ 5

8. A suffix is a letter or group of letters added to the end of a word to change the meaning of the word. The suffix y means "full of." Example: bumpy means "full of bumps." Write the word from paragraph three that is formed with the suffix y. _____ What does it mean? _____

9. Write the word from paragraph one that means "something that happens without being planned." _____

VIKKI CARR (1940-)

Singer

June 20, 1970, was a big night for Vikki Carr. She sang at an important dinner at the White House. Vikki was very nervous. And she told her listeners how she felt. She said that the American dream had become real for her. A Mexican-American singer from the *barrios* of El Paso, Texas, had been invited to the home of the President of the United States.

Life had not always been so good for Vikki Carr. She was born in 1940 and named Florencia Bisenta de Casillas Martínez Cardona. Her family was large. Vikki was the oldest of seven children. She didn't have a chance to go to college. She had to work. At different times, she was a secretary, a bookkeeper, and a telephone operator. But she really wanted to be a singer. Finally, in 1958, she joined a Mexican-Irish band led by "Pepe" Callahan. For thirteen years, she was an unknown. But now everyone praises Vikki's talented singing.

Even though Vikki is a star, she has never forgotten that other people still need help. She gives her time and her voice to those who need her. In 1969, Holy Cross High School in San Antonio was about to close. The school couldn't pay its bills. So Vikki agreed to put on a concert for them. It was a great success. The concert made enough money to keep the school open. And Vikki has been back to San Antonio several times since then. The students at the school call Vikki "The Angel of Holy Cross."

Vikki Carr's talent and her kindness have won her many awards. In 1970, she was named "Woman of the Year" in Los Angeles. St. Edward's University has given her an honorary doctor's degree. And in 1972, her fellow performers voted her "Singer of the Year."

Working On Your Own

DIRECTIONS: After you have read the selection, read the questions below. Shade in the circle for the best answer to questions 1—7. Write the answers to questions 8 and 9.

1. In 1970, Vikki Carr sang at _____.
   ○ Pepe's band ○ Holy Cross School ○ the White House ○ El Paso

2. A music performance is a _____.
   ○ concert ○ school ○ dream ○ operator

3. In paragraph two, the word led means _____.
   ○ went ahead ○ was first ○ directed

4. The paragraph that tells about Vikki's jobs before she became a singer is number _____.
   ○ 1 ○ 2 ○ 3 ○ 4

5. The main idea of the selection is that _____.
   ○ Vikki Carr is a kind and talented singing star
   ○ Vikki Carr was "Singer of the Year" in 1972
   ○ Vikki Carr's real name is Florencia Bisenta de Casillas Martínez Cardona

6. Synonyms are words that have the same, or almost the same, meaning. Example: big and large. Which one of these words is a synonym for shut?
   ○ pay ○ call ○ close ○ need

7. Vikki Carr _____.

	True	False
became a star right away	○	○
has won many awards	○	○
came from a small family	○	○

8. A prefix is a letter or group of letters added to the beginning of a word to change the meaning of the word. The prefix un means "not." Example: unlike means "not like." Write the word from paragraph two that is formed with the prefix un. _____ What does it mean? _____

9. Write the word from paragraph one that means "excited and upset." _____

CARLOS EDUARDO CASTAÑEDA (1896-1958)

Historian

The Junípero Serra Award is given to people who help others understand Latin-American culture. In 1953, this award went to Carlos Eduardo Castañeda of Texas. It honored his many writings about the Spanish Southwest.

Castañeda was born in Camargo, Mexico, on November 11, 1896. In 1901, his family moved to Texas. Early in life, Carlos set high goals for himself. He was an outstanding student. Then he went on to study engineering at the University of Texas at Austin. He needed to earn money to pay his way. So he got a job translating old Spanish papers. In this way, he became interested in the Southwest. Carlos decided to become a historian.

Training in history cost a lot. Carlos always had to work hard. He lived above a church where he could do odd jobs instead of paying rent. He washed dishes at the university to get free meals. And he also worked part-time in the oil fields and with a highway crew. Later, he taught Spanish and worked as a librarian. Finally, in 1932, he got his doctor's degree in history.

As a historian, Dr. Castañeda wrote 14 books and almost 100 articles. He also received many honors. He was knighted by the Catholic Church and by the Spanish government. During World War II, President Franklin D. Roosevelt named him to the Committee on Fair Employment Practices. In this job, Dr. Castañeda greatly helped the Spanish-speaking people of the United States. He worked long hours to make the lives of Mexican-American workers better.

Dr. Carlos E. Castañeda died on April 3, 1958. But his work was not forgotten. In 1976, the University of Texas at Austin gave this great historian still another honor. The school named its new library after him.

Working On Your Own

DIRECTIONS: After you have read the selection, read the questions below. Shade in the circle for the best answer to questions 1—7. Write the answers to questions 8 and 9.

1. Antonyms are words that are opposite in meaning. Example: above and below. Which one of these words is an antonym for short?

   ○ early ○ many ○ old ○ long

2. The main idea of the selection is that _____.

   ○ Carlos Castañeda became an honored historian
   ○ Carlos Castañeda studied engineering
   ○ Carlos Castañeda helped Mexican-American workers

3. The paragraph that tells how Carlos Castañeda became interested in history is number _____.

   ○ 1 ○ 2 ○ 3 ○ 4 ○ 5

4. In paragraph three, the word free means _____.

   ○ not chained ○ open and frank ○ not costing anything

5. Carlos Castañeda finished his doctor's degree in _____.

   ○ 1953 ○ 1896 ○ 1932 ○ 1958

6. Someone who studies and writes history is a _____.

   ○ historian ○ librarian ○ crew ○ doctor

7. Carlos Castañeda _____.

	True	False
won awards for his writings	○	○
once worked for the government	○	○
couldn't find jobs when he was at school	○	○

8. A suffix is a letter or group of letters added to the end of a word to change the meaning of the word. The suffix ly means "in this way." Example: quickly means "in a quick way." Write the word from paragraph four that is formed with the suffix ly. _____ What does it mean? _____

9. Write the word from paragraph two that means "changing something from one language to another." _____

RAUL H. CASTRO (1916-)

Diplomat and Politician

In 1920, one of the worst years of the Mexican Revolution, the Castro family left Sonora, Mexico, to live in Arizona. There were thirteen children. Nine-year-old Raúl was the youngest. In their new home, the whole family worked at whatever jobs they could get. Young Raúl spent his summers working in the mines or as a farm hand. He also worked part-time during the school year.

Even so, Raúl did well in school. His mother taught him to be hopeful about the future. She felt that a person must look for opportunities and then be careful to use them. So Raúl studied hard. He was also very good in sports. And these abilities got him a scholarship to Northern Arizona University.

In 1941, Raúl went back to Sonora. This time he was there as a United States citizen. He had an important job with the Foreign Service. Raúl returned to Arizona in 1946. He began to study law. When he finished his studies, he worked as a lawyer in Tucson, Arizona.

Later Raúl turned to politics. In 1954, he became the first Mexican American to be elected to the office of Pima County Attorney. His next step was to serve the county as a judge. Then, in 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson asked him to be the United States ambassador to El Salvador. He did a fine job. Four years later, Ambassador Castro was sent to Bolivia.

Finally, in 1974, Raúl Castro returned to the Southwest he loves. That same year, he was elected governor of Arizona. Governor Castro has explained his beliefs in simple words. He said: "I love people. From every person I've known, I have learned. From every person I have worked with, I have grown. Arizona has great beauty—in her mountains and deserts and canyons and wildlife—but the greatest beauty of Arizona is her people."

Working On Your Own

DIRECTIONS: After you have read the selection, read the questions below. Shade in the circle for the best answer to questions 1—7. Write the answers to questions 8 and 9.

1. The main idea of the selection is that _____.
   - ○ Raúl Castro worked as a miner and a farmer
   - ○ Raúl Castro lives in Arizona
   - ○ Raúl Castro has served his country as an ambassador and as a governor

2. Young Raúl was a _____ student.
   - ○ poor
   - ○ careless
   - ○ good
   - ○ bad

3. Synonyms are words that have the same, or almost the same, meaning. Example: simple and easy. Which one of these words is a synonym for entire?
   - ○ whole
   - ○ youngest
   - ○ hard
   - ○ important

4. Raúl Castro _____.

	True	False
was once a judge	○	○
worked while he went to school	○	○
was good in sports	○	○

5. The paragraph that tells about Governor Castro's beliefs is number _____.
   - ○ 1
   - ○ 2
   - ○ 3
   - ○ 4
   - ○ 5

6. In paragraph four, the word fine means _____.
   - ○ very pure
   - ○ very small
   - ○ very good

7. Dry, sandy places are _____.
   - ○ canyons
   - ○ deserts
   - ○ mountains
   - ○ mines

8. A suffix is a letter or group of letters added to the end of a word to change the meaning of the word. The suffix or means "one who does." Example: actor means "one who acts." Write the word from paragraph five that is formed with the suffix or. _____ What does it mean? _____

9. Write the word from paragraph four that means "chosen by vote." _____

MANUEL ANTONIO CHAVES (1818-1889)

Frontier Pioneer

There are many stories about the English-speaking pioneers who went west. But long before they arrived, Spanish-speaking pioneers had made homes in the Southwest. One of these fearless people of the frontier was Manuel Antonio Chaves of New Mexico.

Chaves was part of a very old family. His family name dated from 1160. Chaves was the name of a town in Portugal. The town had been taken over by Arabs. Spanish soldiers won it back. And the leading knights took the name of the town as their own.

Manuel Antonio was born on October 18, 1818, near Albuquerque. When he was 9 years old, his family moved to the foothills of San Mateo Mountain. They lived in the small village of Cebolleta. It was a dangerous spot. Navajo raiders attacked often. When Manuel was 16, he rode with his brother and some friends into Navajo country. The outcome was terrible. Everyone was killed except Manuel. He was badly wounded. But he managed to bury his brother in a shallow grave. Then he crawled away from the battlefield. He traveled at night and hid during the day. Finally, he reached home. His bravery and determination earned him the nickname of *El leoncito,* the little lion.

Throughout most of his life, *El leoncito* was a fighter. The Spanish pioneers often had to battle the Indians. Yet Chaves never hated Indians. He respected their skill and courage.

During the American Civil War, Chaves fought for the Union. He guided soldiers through Colorado's mountains. He also helped win the Battle of Glorieta Pass. It was an important victory. It kept New Mexico safe for the Union.

Manuel Antonio Chaves died on January 31, 1889. *El leoncito* was finally at rest.

Working On Your Own

DIRECTIONS: After you have read the selection, read the questions below. Shade in the circle for the best answer to questions 1—7. Write the answers to questions 8 and 9.

1. The paragraph that tells how the Chaves family got their name is number _____.

   ○ 1 ○ 2 ○ 3 ○ 4 ○ 5 ○ 6

2. Manuel Antonio Chaves was nicknamed *El leoncito* because of his _____.

   ○ money ○ bravery ○ death ○ hometown

3. The part of a country that is not yet settled is a _____.

   ○ grave ○ frontier ○ foothill ○ village

4. The main idea of the selection is that _____.

   ○ Manuel Antonio Chaves was a famous pioneer of the Southwest
   ○ Manuel Antonio Chaves had Spanish ancestors
   ○ Manuel Antonio Chaves hated Indians

5. In paragraph three, the word spot means _____.

   ○ to see ○ a mark ○ a place

6. Manuel Antonio Chaves _____.

	True	False
grew up in New Mexico	○	○
was killed at age 16	○	○
fought Union soldiers in Colorado	○	○

7. Antonyms are words that are opposite in meaning. Example: loved and hated. Which one of these words is an antonym for safe?

   ○ long ○ small ○ dangerous ○ shallow

8. A suffix is a letter or group of letters added to the end of a word to change the meaning of the word. The suffix less means "without." Example: hopeless means "without hope." Write the word from paragraph one that is formed with the suffix less. _____ What does it mean? _____

9. Write the word from paragraph three that means "result." _____

CESAR ESTRADA CHAVEZ (1927-)

Farm Workers' Labor Leader

César Chávez remembers his childhood well. When he was born on March 31, 1927, his parents had their own small ranch. It was 15 miles outside of Yuma, Arizona. Then when César was 10 years old, his parents lost the ranch. The Chávezes and their five children became farm workers. They moved from place to place, wherever crops were ready to be picked. They were very poor. The whole family working together earned only 23 cents an hour. Often they were mistreated by the growers.

Later the Chávez family moved to San Jose, California. They lived in a *barrio*, or neighborhood, called *Sal si puedes.* The name means "escape, if you can." It was here that César learned about labor unions. Both his father and his grandfather belonged to a union. César himself joined the National Agricultural Workers Union. He wasn't happy with them. He didn't think they were doing enough for Mexican-American farm workers. But then came World War II. César left to serve in the United States Navy until the end of the war.

After the war, César went to Delano, California. He became more involved with the problems of Mexican-American farm workers. His first goal was to raise their wages. Most were making less than a dollar an hour. But César also wanted to get better working conditions, better housing, and better schooling for the children. Most of all, he wanted to gain for Mexican Americans dignity and respect. Most of the farm workers trusted César. Together they formed a group that became the United Farm Workers Union.

To reach their goals, the farm workers organized strikes against the grape growers. It took courage, work, and hope. In 1966, César and his followers walked the 300 miles from Delano to Sacramento, the state capital of California. They wanted to protest the low wages the farm workers were earning. And many people across the country agreed with them. "Don't buy grapes," said the union. So many people didn't.

César Chávez has been an outstanding leader among Mexican-American farm workers. Many of his goals have been reached. But he is still trying to make a better life for his people.

Working On Your Own

DIRECTIONS: After you have read the selection, read the questions below. Shade in the circle for the best answer to questions 1—7. Write the answers to questions 8 and 9.

1. In paragraph four, the word low means _____.
   ○ not tall ○ not loud ○ not high

2. The main idea of the selection is that _____.
   ○ César Chávez was poor as a child
   ○ César Chávez has spent his life helping others
   ○ César Chávez was in the navy in World War II

3. The paragraph that tells about the farm workers' strikes is number _____.
   ○ 1 ○ 2 ○ 3 ○ 4 ○ 5

4. Money paid for work is called _____.
   ○ crops ○ wages ○ goals ○ problems

5. Antonyms are words that are opposite in meaning. Example: poor and rich. Which one of these words is an antonym for sell?
   ○ escape ○ think ○ serve ○ buy

6. César Chávez _____.

	True	False
worked for the grape growers	○	○
never joined a union	○	○
has been able to reach some of his goals	○	○

7. César and his followers walked to Sacramento to _____ their wages.
   ○ lower ○ stop ○ protest ○ lose

8. A prefix is a letter or group of letters added to the beginning of a word to change the meaning of the word. The prefix mis means "badly." Example: misbehave means "behave badly." Write the word from paragraph one that is formed with the prefix mis. _____ What does it mean? _____

9. Write the word from paragraph four that means "bravery." _____

DENNIS CHAVEZ (1888-1962)

Politician

Dionisio Chávez was born on April 8, 1888. His birthplace was the small town of Los Chávez in the Territory of New Mexico. When Dionisio went to school, English-speaking teachers changed his name to Dennis.

Young Dennis stayed in school until eighth grade. Then he had to help his family earn money. He went to work for a grocer. He delivered the groceries in a horse-drawn wagon. His day began at six o'clock each morning. But Dennis was still able to keep up the skills he had learned in school. He especially loved to read.

In 1912, New Mexico became a state. Four years later, Dennis began working for the United States senator from the state. His job as Spanish interpreter took him to Washington, D.C. Being in the nation's capital was a big chance for him. Dennis decided to go into politics. He quickly realized that he would need more schooling to get ahead. His reading helped him pass the tests to get into Georgetown University. By 1920, he had earned his degree in law.

Next, Dennis returned to New Mexico. He followed his plans to become a politician. In 1930, he was elected to the United States Congress. Four years later, he lost his try for the Senate. But then the governor of New Mexico named him to finish the term of a senator who had died in office. Later, in the 1936 election, Dennis earned the Senate seat on his own.

Senator Chávez worked on many committees during his years in Congress. In the 1940s, he became head of the Senate Committee on Education and Labor. He spoke out on equal rights for all Americans. He was especially interested in fairness for the Spanish-speaking people of the Southwest. He also worked to better the friendships between the United States and the countries of Latin America.

Senator Chávez died in November of 1962. He is still remembered as a pioneer in working for the rights of Mexican Americans.

Working On Your Own

DIRECTIONS: After you have read the selection, read the questions below. Shade in the circle for the best answer to questions 1—7. Write the answers to questions 8 and 9.

1. In paragraph five, the word head means _____.
   - ○ part of the body
   - ○ person in charge
   - ○ one side of a coin

2. Synonyms are words that have the same, or almost the same, meaning. Example: quick and fast. Which one of these words is a synonym for complete?
   - ○ earn
   - ○ realize
   - ○ finish
   - ○ elect

3. Dennis Chávez _____.

	True	False
was born in Mexico	○	○
kept reading even after he left school	○	○
spoke out for equal rights for everyone	○	○

4. Things people learn to do are _____.
   - ○ skills
   - ○ teachers
   - ○ politics
   - ○ rights

5. The main idea of the selection is that _____.
   - ○ Dennis Chávez became a lawyer in 1920
   - ○ Dennis Chávez became a respected member of Congress
   - ○ Dennis Chávez dropped out of school early

6. The paragraph that tells how Dennis Chávez got his name is number _____.
   - ○ 1
   - ○ 2
   - ○ 3
   - ○ 4
   - ○ 5
   - ○ 6

7. Dennis Chávez first went to Washington as _____.
   - ○ a representative
   - ○ a senator
   - ○ an interpreter
   - ○ a grocer

8. A suffix is a letter or group of letters added to the end of a word to change the meaning of the word. The suffix ion means "the act of doing something." Example: invention means "the act of inventing." Write the word from paragraph four that is formed with the suffix ion. _____ What does it mean? _____

9. Write the word from paragraph three that means "the city in a country or state where the government is." _____

JOSE CISNEROS (1910-)

Artist

Usually artists are not honored by their hometowns until they have died. For José Cisneros, it was different. The people of El Paso, Texas, recognized the worth of his art. In 1974, José was voted into the El Paso Hall of Honor.

José was born on April 18, 1910, in Durango, Mexico. His father worked at different jobs. He was a farmer, a stagecoach driver, a carpenter, and a musician. But José showed very early that he wanted to be an artist. By the time he was eight years old, he was painting pictures on the neighbors' adobe walls.

During the Mexican Revolution, the Cisneros family fled from one town to another looking for safety. In 1925, they moved to Ciudad Juárez, just across the border from El Paso. There José went to school for the first and only time. He attended classes for just three and a half years. But José was always reading. By studying on his own, he learned about many subjects. He even taught himself how to draw and paint.

In the 1920s, José worked on both sides of the Rio Grande. He did odd jobs, from newspaper carrier to window trimmer. He also kept working on his art. In 1934, José moved to El Paso for good. That same year, a magazine in Mexico City accepted four of his drawings. From then on, José's artwork could often be seen in Mexican magazines.

José finally got a steady job in 1943. He began to work for the El Paso City Lines. For many years, José was in charge of the paint shop. At one time, the street cars were brightly decorated with his designs. Meanwhile, José met Carl Hertzog, who worked for Texas Western Press. Carl wanted José to do pictures for books. The two men worked together for nearly 25 years.

José's art has appeared in many ways. He has done drawings for books, pamphlets, greeting cards, and other printed materials. He has also made special designs for several groups. In 1969, José got an award that paid him to work full time on his drawings. He completed over a hundred of them in six months. Most of them showed horseback riders of northern Mexico and the American Southwest.

José's pictures have been shown in museums all over the United States as well as in Mexico. Without a single art lesson, this great Mexican-American artist has made his mark.

Working On Your Own

DIRECTIONS: After you have read the selection, read the questions below. Shade in the circle for the best answer to questions 1—7. Write the answers to questions 8 and 9.

1. Bricks made from earth dried in the sun are _____.
   ○ pictures ○ adobe ○ subjects ○ designs

2. José Cisneros _____.

	True	False
never took art lessons	○	○
wanted to be a musician at first	○	○
always lived in El Paso	○	○

3. In paragraph three, the word draw means _____.
   ○ to get water ○ to pick a card ○ to make a picture

4. The paragraph that tells why the Cisneros family first moved to Ciudad Juárez is number _____.
   ○ 1 ○ 2 ○ 3 ○ 4 ○ 5 ○ 6 ○ 7

5. Synonyms are words that have the same, or almost the same, meaning. Example: value and worth. Which one of these words is a synonym for accepted?
   ○ took ○ taught ○ completed ○ showed

6. José's art has appeared _____.
   ○ only on greeting cards ○ only in museums ○ in many ways

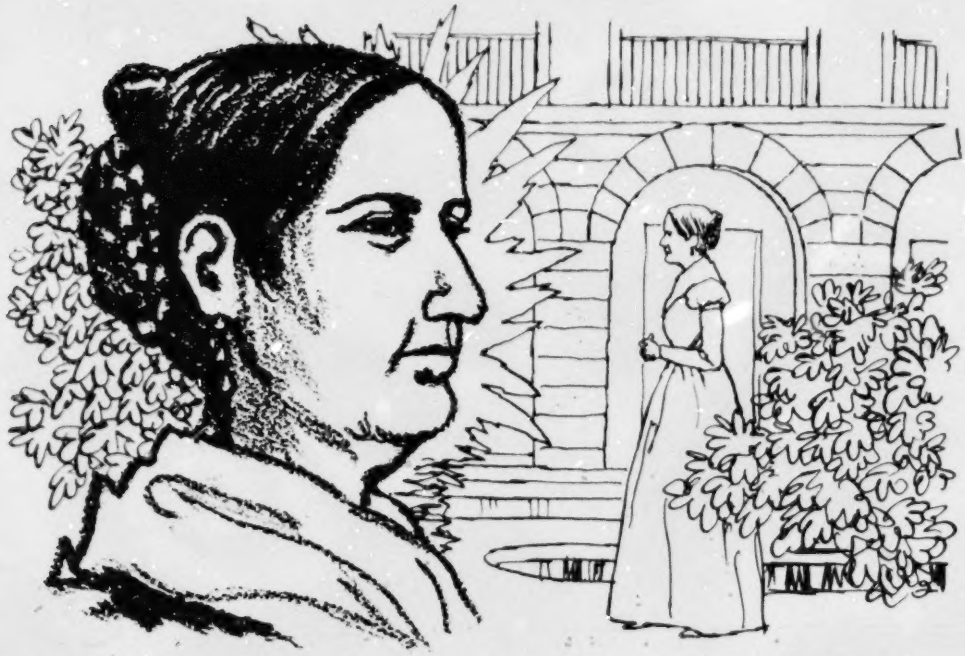
7. The main idea of the selection is that _____.
   ○ José Cisneros is a well-known Mexican-American artist
   ○ José Cisneros didn't get a steady job until he was 31
   ○ José Cisneros does special designs as well as paintings

8. A suffix is a letter or group of letters added to the end of a word to change the meaning of the word. The suffix ty means "the condition of being something." Example: certainty means "the condition of being certain." Write the word from paragraph three that is formed with the suffix ty. _____ What does it mean? _____

9. Write the word from paragraph six that means "small books only a few pages long."
   _____

JOSEFA ORTIZ DE DOMINGUEZ (1768-1829)

Heroine of Mexican Independence



One of the many plazas in Mexico City has a statue of *La corregidora.* It honors Josefa Ortiz de Domínguez. This woman was a great heroine during the struggle for Mexican independence.

Shortly after Josefa Ortiz was born in 1768, both her parents died. Her older sister took care of the young girl. When Josefa finished school in 1791, she married Miguel Domínguez. He worked for the government. Later, he became *Corregidor* of the town of Querétaro. The word *corregir* means "to correct wrongs." Under Spanish rule, a *corregidor* was a judge who made sure the rights of the Indians were protected.

Doña Josefa played a major part in Mexico's fight for freedom. Her daughter was to marry a young leader of the independence movement. So Doña Josefa learned of their plans to fight the Spaniards. She wanted to help. As the wife of the *Corregidor* of Querétaro, she could give them important information. She also convinced her husband to support independence secretly.

In the summer of 1810, the Spaniards found out about the plans of the independence party. To gain time, Miguel Domínguez still pretended to be on the side of Spain. To keep Josefa safe, he ordered her not to leave their home. Even so, she was able to send a warning to her friends. Her warning made the leaders act. They began the War for Independence on September 16, 1810. Doña Josefa was arrested. She spent the next three years in a convent.

Mexico finally gained its independence in 1821. Josefa Ortiz de Domínguez was offered rewards for what she had done. But she was true to her beliefs and would not take them. She died in 1829. At first, she was buried in the convent that had been her prison. Later, her body was sent back to Querétaro. The government named her *Benemérita de la patria,* great citizen of the nation. But she is known best as *La corregidora,* the one who righted wrongs.

Working On Your Own

DIRECTIONS: After you have read the selection, read the questions below. Shade in the circle for the best answer to questions 1—7. Write the answers to questions 8 and 9.

1. Synonyms are words that have the same, or almost the same, meaning. Example: began and started. Which one of these words is a synonym for jail?
   ○ offered ○ buried ○ wanted ○ prison

2. The paragraph that tells about Doña Josefa's early years is number _____.
   ○ 1 ○ 2 ○ 3 ○ 4 ○ 5

3. An open square in a city or town is a _____.
   ○ plaza ○ statue ○ convent ○ nation

4. Josefa Ortiz de Domínguez _____.

	True	False
was called *La corregidora*	○	○
took rewards for what she had done	○	○
never married	○	○

5. In paragraph four, the word leave means _____.
   ○ give in a will ○ go away from ○ stop

6. Doña Josefa helped the _____ party.
   ○ Spanish ○ wrong ○ independence ○ Indian

7. The main idea of the selection is that _____.
   ○ Doña Josefa played an important part in freeing Mexico from Spanish rule
   ○ Doña Josefa wanted to help her daughter
   ○ the office of *Corregidor* is very special and was given to Doña Josefa for her help

8. A suffix is a letter or group of letters added to the end of a word to change the meaning of the word. The suffix ly means "in this way." Example: slowly means "in a slow way." Write the word from paragraph three that is formed with the suffix ly. _____ What does it mean? _____

9. Write the word from paragraph three that means "facts or news." _____

PATRICK FERNANDEZ FLORES (1929-)

Church Leader

The 5th of May is a special day for Mexicans and Mexican Americans. On that day in 1862, Benito Juárez and his armies won an important battle against the French in Mexico. So Patrick Fernández Flores picked May 5 as the day he would be made a bishop in 1970. He was the first Mexican-American bishop in the Catholic Church and a pioneer among Mexican-American Church leaders.

Patrick was born on July 20, 1929, in Ganado, Texas. He and his family were farm workers. Mostly, they picked cotton. Life was difficult for them. They traveled from one farm to another from September until December. Often they slept in barns, garages, or a small trailer. When Patrick could, he went to school. Altogether, he attended seven different schools. Then he had to quit. His family needed him to work.

During his school years, Patrick often thought about becoming a priest. At first, few people encouraged him. Then he met Sister Mary Benetin. She helped the young boy by introducing him to the Bishop of Galveston. This was Patrick's big chance. The bishop agreed to pay for his education in the seminary. Patrick did well, and on May 26, 1956, he became a priest.

Bishop Flores never forgot his early years, though. He has said that those years prepared him to be a priest. He feels he can work with the poor because he has been poor himself. He remembers the hard life of a farm worker. The day that he became bishop, Patrick Flores honored his background. He invited César Chávez from the Farm Workers Union to speak at the ceremony. And he asked for a mariachi mass to give it a special Mexican touch.

Today Bishop Flores lives in San Antonio, Texas. He has many duties. One of the most important to him is his work with the Spanish-speaking people of south Texas. He meets with them often in their churches and clubs. He also writes songs and newspaper articles and appears on Spanish-language TV. Bishop Flores is proud to be a friend and spiritual leader of his people.

Working On Your Own

DIRECTIONS: After you have read the selection, read the questions below. Shade in the circle for the best answer to questions 1—7. Write the answers to questions 8 and 9.

1. Patrick Flores became a bishop on _____.
   ○ May 5, 1862 ○ July 20, 1929 ○ May 5, 1970 ○ May 26, 1956

2. Synonyms are words that have the same, or almost the same, meaning. Example: hard and difficult. Which one of these words is a synonym for stop?
   ○ quit ○ travel ○ agree ○ prepare

3. In paragraph one, the word picked means _____.
   ○ pulled apart ○ gathered ○ chose

4. The main idea of the selection is that _____.
   ○ Patrick Flores became a priest with the help of the Bishop of Galveston
   ○ Church leader Patrick Flores became the first Mexican-American bishop
   ○ Patrick Flores and his family were farm workers

5. Someone who prepares the way for others is a _____.
   ○ worker ○ pioneer ○ bishop ○ pastor

6. The paragraph that tells how Patrick Flores got to be a priest is number _____.
   ○ 1 ○ 2 ○ 3 ○ 4 ○ 5

7. Patrick Flores _____.

	True	False
was never poor	○	○
became a leader in the Church	○	○
no longer works in the Church	○	○

8. A prefix is a letter or group of letters added to the beginning of a word to change the meaning of the word. The prefix en can mean "to give." Example: enriched means "gave riches." Write the word from paragraph three that is formed with the prefix en. _____ What does it mean? _____
   _____

9. Write the word from paragraph five that means "things a person has to do in his or her work." _____

CLOTILDE P. GARCIA (1917-)

Doctor and Writer

All along the Gulf coast of Texas, people look up to Dr. Clotilde P. García. Her many friends and patients call her "Dr. Cleo." Helping people has been the most important part of Dr. Cleo's life. She has worked especially hard to give children better health care.

Clotilde was born in Mexico on January 11, 1917. When her family moved to Texas, she went to school in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. Her parents were both teachers, and Clotilde did well as a student. She went on to college and became a teacher herself. For twelve years, she taught in Mercedes, Texas. Then, in 1954, she became a medical doctor.

Dr. Cleo's medical practice keeps her busy. But she does find time for her many other interests. She loves history. When she's watching a patient all night at the hospital, she often studies old books and papers. She has even written two books. They tell about the Spanish period of Texas history. And Dr. Cleo has other hobbies, too. She paints, plays the piano, and collects Mexican art.

Being a doctor isn't the only way that Dr. Cleo helps people. She knows the kinds of difficulties people have. She belongs to many groups that try to solve them. She also started the Carmelite Day Nursery so that children of working parents could have good care. And the governor of Texas asked her to be on a committee to help make the state's laws better.

It's no wonder that Dr. Cleo has received many honors. In 1973, she was named Outstanding Citizen and Civic Leader of Corpus Christi, Texas. She was also chosen to be listed in a book called *Who's Who of American Women.* Clotilde P. García's kindness and hard work have made her respected as well as loved.

Working On Your Own

DIRECTIONS: After you have read the selection, read the questions below. Shade in the circle for the best answer to questions 1—7. Write the answers to questions 8 and 9.

1. The paragraph that tells about Dr. Cleo's honors is number _____.
   ○ 1 ○ 2 ○ 3 ○ 4 ○ 5

2. In paragraph one, the word coast means _____.
   ○ land along a shore ○ sail ○ move easily

3. The main idea of the selection is that _____.
   ○ Clotilde P. García is a kind and respected doctor
   ○ Clotilde P. García started a nursery school
   ○ Clotilde P. García's parents were teachers

4. A person being treated by a doctor is a _____.
   ○ friend ○ governor ○ patient ○ student

5. Dr. Clotilde P. García _____.

	True	False
was a teacher	○	○
has several hobbies	○	○
was born in Texas	○	○

6. Dr. Cleo has written two _____ books.
   ○ art ○ piano ○ medical ○ history

7. Antonyms are words that are opposite in meaning. Example: day and night. Which one of these words is an antonym for new?
   ○ good ○ old ○ both ○ well

8. A suffix is a letter or group of letters added to the end of a word to change the meaning of the word. The suffix ness means "the act of being something." Example: goodness means "the act of being good." Write the word from paragraph five that is formed with the suffix ness. _____ What does it mean? _____

9. Write the word from paragraph four that means "problems." _____

SEVERO GOMEZ (1924-)

Educational Leader

In the last ten years, Dr. Severo Gómez has become well known as a leader in education. He was the first Mexican American to be named to the important job of associate commissioner in the Texas Education Agency. But the road to the top was not easy for Dr. Gómez.

Severo was born in Woodsboro, Texas, on January 18, 1924. There were children of many ethnic groups in his area. Going to school was a problem. In those days, children were grouped by their background. Some students were kept in kindergarten for as long as three years because they did not speak English. Severo was lucky. He could speak English well. His father had taught him to read and write even before he went to school. Severo did so well that he was put in an English-speaking group. He was the only Mexican American in the class.

In high school, Severo became interested in sports. He was in the starting line of the football team. But he still kept up with his studies. He graduated second in his class. He was also voted All-Around Boy. This honor meant a lot to him. It showed that his teachers and fellow students saw him as a leader. Severo then went on to college at Texas A & I University.

Dr. Gómez has worked hard to make education better in Texas. He helped teachers start bilingual programs all over the state. This meant that children could learn subjects in their own language. At the same time, they would learn English or another second language. The programs have been a success. And Dr. Gómez has traveled to other countries to help them do the same thing. He has been to Brazil, Ecuador, Chile, Mexico, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Colombia, and Guatemala.

Severo Gómez's ancestors were among the early settlers in Texas. In his own way, he, too, has been a pioneer.

Working On Your Own

DIRECTIONS: After you have read the selection, read the questions below. Shade in the circle for the best answer to questions 1—7. Write the answers to questions 8 and 9.

1. In paragraph three, the word line means _____.
   - ○ telephone wire
   - ○ rope for a boat
   - ○ a certain group of football players

2. Dr. Gómez has helped start _____ programs in many schools.
   - ○ kindergarten
   - ○ bilingual
   - ○ sports
   - ○ honor

3. Synonyms are words that have the same, or almost the same, meaning. Example: road and street. Which one of these words is a synonym for talk?
   - ○ help
   - ○ speak
   - ○ start
   - ○ learn

4. Family members of long ago are _____.
   - ○ students
   - ○ studies
   - ○ ancestors
   - ○ children

5. The paragraph that tells where Dr. Gómez has traveled is number _____.
   - ○ 1
   - ○ 2
   - ○ 3
   - ○ 4
   - ○ 5

6. The main idea of the selection is that _____.
   - ○ Severo Gómez could read and write even before he went to school
   - ○ Severo Gómez is a well-known leader in education
   - ○ Severo Gómez comes from an old Texas family

7. Dr. Severo Gómez _____.

	True	False
spoke only Spanish as a child	○	○
didn't have time to study in high school	○	○
has had an important job in the Texas Education Agency	○	○

8. A suffix is a letter or group of letters added to the end of a word to change the meaning of the word. The suffix y means "full of." Example: dirty means "full of dirt." Write the word from paragraph two that is formed with the suffix y. _____ What does it mean? _____

9. Write the word from paragraph two that means "a school class for very young children." _____

RICHARD (PANCHO) GONZALES (1928-)

Tennis Champion

Richard Alonso Gonzales discovered tennis by accident. He was 12 years old when it happened. He really wanted a bike. But his mother didn't have enough money for one. Instead, Señora Gonzales bought her son a tennis racket for less than a dollar. She didn't know then that he would become one of the greatest tennis champions of all time.

"Pancho" Gonzales was born on May 9, 1928, in Los Angeles, California. His father worked as a painter in the movie studios. His mother sewed. There was not much money. And there wasn't much chance of things getting better. By the time Pancho was a teenager, he was in trouble. In 1943, he was sent to a reform school.

At the school, Pancho soon learned the value of an education. He also worked outside often. He learned, too, that sports can build character and control. His tennis got better and better.

When Pancho left the school, he went into the United States Navy. After that, he began to play tennis seriously. At first, Pancho had a hard time because of his background. But the crowds loved him from the beginning. And in 1948, Pancho won the United States championship at Forest Hills, New York. He won it again in 1949. The young champ was only 21 years old. That same year, Pancho played in the Davis Cup matches. He helped the United States beat Australia. After that victory, Pancho turned professional. By 1954, he was at the top. For the next 6 years, he was the best-known tennis player in the country.

In 1960, Pancho cut back his pro activities. He played only a few matches a year. He spent his time teaching tennis to young players. He began to do some TV work and to help run a tennis ranch. Pancho also became tennis director of Caesars Palace in Las Vegas. And now he is playing on the senior tennis tour.

Many people still think that Pancho Gonzales was the best natural athlete who ever played tennis. He brought a special style to the game. He was truly a champion.

Working On Your Own

DIRECTIONS: After you have read the selection, read the questions below. Shade in the circle for the best answer to questions 1—7. Write the answers to questions 8 and 9.

1. Pancho Gonzales _____.

	True	False
got in trouble as a teenager	○	○
became a tennis champ at age 12	○	○
was a top pro tennis player	○	○

2. Pancho Gonzales won the United States tennis championship in _____.
   ○ 1928 and 1943 ○ 1948 and 1949 ○ 1954 and 1960 ○ 1968 and 1972

3. The paragraph that tells how Pancho Gonzales discovered tennis is number _____.
   ○ 1 ○ 2 ○ 3 ○ 4 ○ 5 ○ 6

4. In paragraph five, the word matches means _____.
   ○ things to make fire ○ games ○ things that are alike

5. The main idea of the selection is that _____.
   ○ Pancho Gonzales went to reform school
   ○ Pancho Gonzales teaches tennis
   ○ Pancho Gonzales became a tennis great

6. Antonyms are words that are opposite in meaning. Example: young and old. Which one of these words is an antonym for more?
   ○ less ○ really ○ better ○ next

7. A person trained in sports is _____.
   ○ a painter ○ an athlete ○ a director ○ a character

8. A suffix is a letter or group of letters added to the end of a word to change the meaning of the word. The suffix ship can mean "the position of being something." Example: citizenship means "the position of being a citizen." Write the word from paragraph four that is formed with the suffix ship. _____ What does it mean? _____

9. Write the word from paragraph three that means "worth or importance." _____

HENRY B. GONZALEZ (1916-)

Politician

Texas became part of the United States in 1846. For 110 years after that, no Mexican Americans served in the state legislature. Then Henry B. González of San Antonio was elected to the state senate in 1956. Henry soon became known all over the country. He spoke out against ten bills that would separate people of different races in buses, schools, and other public places. Henry talked and talked against the bills in the senate. He and another senator spoke for 36 hours and two minutes. Their speech set a record. And eight of the bills did not get enough votes to become laws. It was a great victory for Henry.

Henry's parents had come to the United States in 1910. They lived in San Antonio. Henry's father was editor of *La Prensa,* a Spanish newspaper. Henry was born on May 3, 1916. As a boy, he worked hard in school. He also liked to visit libraries. He has said, "From my father's books, I learned the beauty of the Spanish language—my mother tongue. From public schools and libraries, I learned the richness of the English language." Later, Henry earned his law degree from St. Mary's University.

In 1961, San Antonio needed a representative in the United States Congress. A special election was held. González ran for the office. Vice-President Lyndon B. Johnson came to San Antonio to help him. Cantinflas, a popular comedian from Mexico, also came. The three men went everywhere. They visited hospitals, shopping centers, and the *barrios,* or Spanish-speaking neighborhoods. When the votes were counted, Henry B. González had won by more than 10,000. He became the first Mexican American from Texas ever elected to the United States Congress.

As a member of Congress, Representative González has done much for San Antonio. He has helped provide jobs, housing, and money for schools. On July 1, 1976, the city honored him for it. The Exhibit Hall of its new Convention Center was named after Henry. Few people are honored this way. Henry B. González has earned his right to be one of them.

Working On Your Own

DIRECTIONS: After you have read the selection, read the questions below. Shade in the circle for the best answer to questions 1—7. Write the answers to questions 8 and 9.

1. Henry González _____.

	True	False
was a state senator before he went to Washington	○	○
has a law degree	○	○
was the third Mexican American from Texas ever elected to the United States Congress	○	○

2. Someone who is well liked is _____.
   ○ against ○ public ○ first ○ popular

3. Henry González represented _____ in the United States Congress.
   ○ Arizona ○ New Mexico ○ Texas ○ California

4. The main idea of the selection is that _____.
   ○ Henry González understands both Spanish and English
   ○ Henry González became an important member of Congress
   ○ Henry González has been honored by the city of San Antonio

5. In paragraph two, the word tongue means _____.
   ○ part of a shoe ○ a language ○ part of a mouth

6. Which paragraph tells about González's record speech in the state senate?
   ○ 1 ○ 2 ○ 3 ○ 4

7. Antonyms are words that are opposite in meaning. Example: for and against. Which one of these words is an antonym for none?
   ○ no ○ few ○ special ○ all

8. A suffix is a letter or group of letters added to the end of a word to change the meaning of the word. The suffix ness means "the condition of being something." Example: darkness means "the condition of being dark." Write the word from paragraph two that is formed with the suffix ness. _____ What does it mean? _____ _____

9. Write the word from paragraph one that means "to move apart or to keep apart."
   _____

RODOLFO P. HERNANDEZ (1931-)

Military Hero

The Congressional Medal of Honor is the highest award a soldier can receive. It was set up by Congress in 1861. Only people who show bravery above the call of duty can receive it. Many Mexican Americans have been honored with this medal. One of them was Rodolfo P. Hernández.

Rodolfo had been born in Colton, California, in 1931. He dropped out of school in eighth grade. For a while, he was a farm worker. But then farm jobs became hard to find. So Rudy went into the United States Army in March of 1949. He trained to be a paratrooper at Fort Benning, Georgia. Then he joined Company G of the 187th Airborne Regimental Combat Team.

The Korean War started in 1950. Rudy's company was sent to Korea to fight. Corporal Hernández saw a lot of action. Then came the morning of May 31, 1951. On a battlefield near Wongtong-ni, Rudy's platoon was forced to pull back. Rudy faced the enemy alone. He was already hurt. Yet he charged forward. He had only a jammed rifle and his bayonet. Somehow he killed six enemy soldiers before he fell. Rudy's act of courage gave the rest of his unit time to counterattack and regain the lost ground.

Most heroes who earn the Congressional Medal of Honor die on the battlefield. Rudy was one of the lucky few who lived. After the war, he returned home to Fresno, California. He married and got a job. In 1962, President John F. Kennedy invited him to the White House. For Rudy Hernández, being part of that gathering of Congressional Medal of Honor winners was the greatest honor of all.

Working On Your Own

DIRECTIONS: After you have read the selection, read the questions below. Shade in the circle for the best answer to questions 1—7. Write the answers to questions 8 and 9.

1. Rudy Hernández fought in _____.
   ○ World War I ○ World War II ○ the Korean War ○ the Vietnam War

2. In paragraph three, the word company means _____.
   ○ guests ○ a group of soldiers ○ a business

3. The main idea of the selection is that _____.
   ○ Rudy Hernández became a paratrooper
   ○ Rudy Hernández was a brave soldier who won the Medal of Honor
   ○ Rudy Hernández went to the White House

4. Rudy Hernández _____.

	True	False
finished high school	○	○
was a hero	○	○
died on the battlefield	○	○

5. The paragraph that tells why Rudy joined the army is number _____.
   ○ 1 ○ 2 ○ 3 ○ 4

6. Synonyms are words that have the same, or almost the same, meaning. Example: bravery and courage. Which one of these words is a synonym for get?
   ○ act ○ die ○ receive ○ hurt

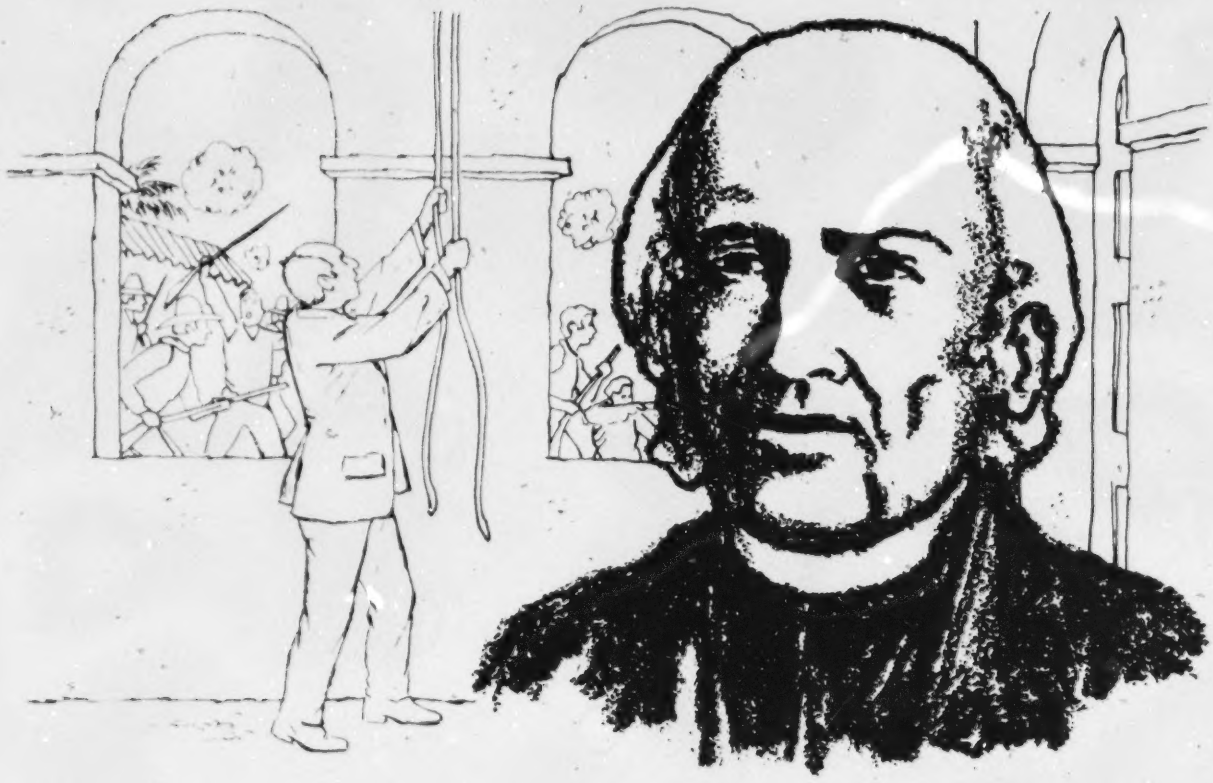
7. A prize or honor is _____.
   ○ an award ○ a call ○ a bayonet ○ a gathering

8. A prefix is a letter or group of letters added to the beginning of a word to change the meaning of the word. The prefix re means "back" or "again." Example: refill means "fill again." Write the word from paragraph three that is formed with the prefix re. _____ What does it mean? _____

9. Write the word from paragraph three that means "stuck or blocked." _____

MIGUEL HIDALGO (1753-1811)

Father of Mexican Independence



Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla is known as the Father of Mexican Independence. He was born in Guanajuato on May 8, 1753. His early years were spent on a ranch that his father managed. Then Miguel went to school at the famous College of St. Nicholas. He was an outstanding pupil. When he finished his courses, he was asked to stay on as a teacher. Students called him *El zorro*, the fox, because he was so smart.

Miguel went on to study at the Royal and Pontifical University in Mexico City. Then, in 1778, he became a priest. He was sent to a country parish in the small town of Dolores. He taught his people many things, from beekeeping to growing grapes.

At that time, Mexico was called New Spain. Many of its leaders had watched the colonies of North America free themselves from England. They wanted the same kind of independence for Mexico. And they were ready to fight Spain for it. Among these leaders was Father Hidalgo. On September 16, 1810, he rang the bells of his parish church. He shouted his battle cry, known as the *Grito de Dolores*. After that, there was no turning back for him or for his followers. At first, they won many victories. But then they began to lose. Within a few months, Father Hidalgo and the other leaders were captured, tried, and put to death.

Even after Father Hidalgo died, though, the movement for independence didn't stop. For ten more years, Mexicans fought for their freedom. Finally, in 1821, they won. No one forgot Father Hidalgo's part in it all. Throughout Mexico, statues still honor the country priest who helped begin a new nation.

Working On Your Own

DIRECTIONS: After you have read the selection, read the questions below. Shade in the circle for the best answer to questions 1—7. Write the answers to questions 8 and 9.

1. Settlements of people in a new country are _____.
   ○ colonies ○ victories ○ statues ○ followers

2. The main idea of the selection is that _____.
   ○ Father Hidalgo served as a priest in Dolores
   ○ Father Hidalgo helped start Mexico's fight for independence
   ○ Father Hidalgo died before Mexico became free

3. In paragraph three, the word tried means _____.
   ○ tested ○ attempted ○ given a trial

4. Synonyms are words that have the same, or almost the same, meaning. Example: famous and well-known. Which one of these words is a synonym for student?
   ○ father ○ priest ○ nation ○ pupil

5. Father Hidalgo's early years were spent _____.
   ○ in jail ○ keeping bees ○ on a ranch ○ teaching

6. Father Hidalgo _____.

	True	False
was a teacher at one time	○	○
won the war for independence	○	○
is still remembered in Mexico	○	○

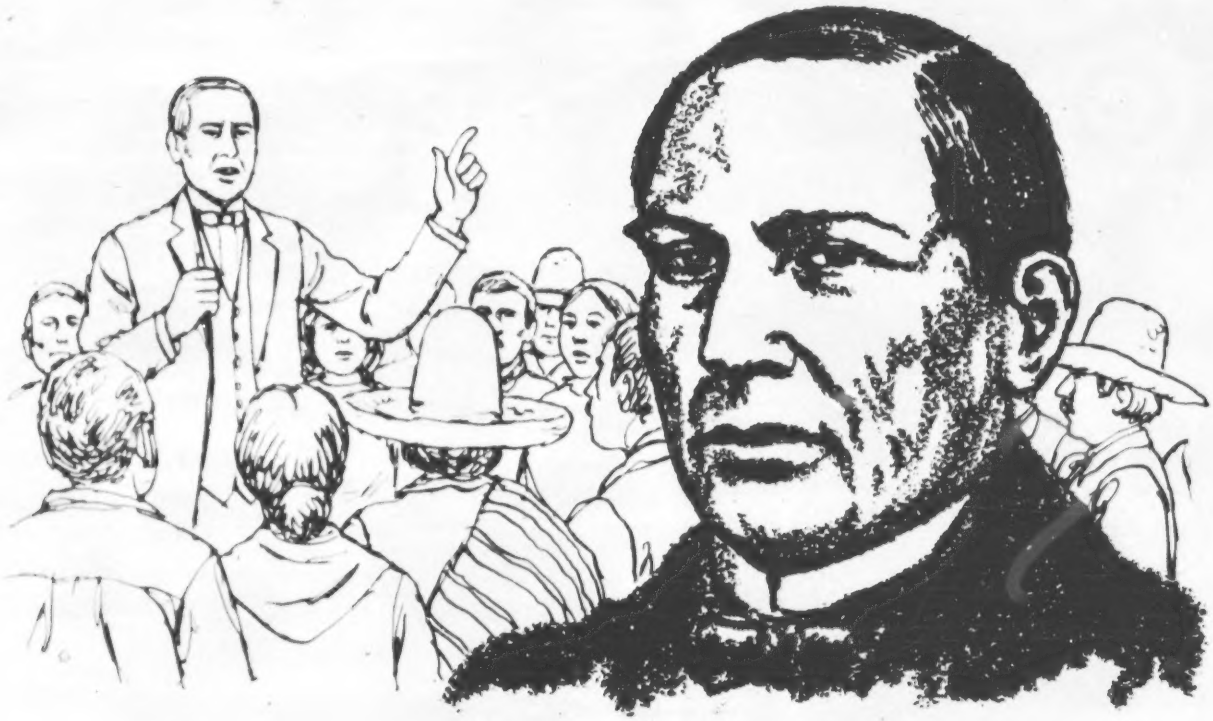
7. The paragraph that tells when Miguel Hidalgo became a priest is number _____.
   ○ 1 ○ 2 ○ 3 ○ 4

8. A suffix is a letter or group of letters added to the end of a word to change the meaning of the word. The suffix dom means "the condition of being something." Example: wisdom means "the condition of being wise." Write the word from paragraph four that is formed with the suffix dom. _____ What does it mean? _____
   _____

9. Write the word from paragraph one that means "was in charge of." _____

BENITO JUAREZ (1806-1872)

Mexican Reform Leader



Benito Juárez led the Mexican people during a very difficult time. He became president of the country in 1857. He had to face outside dangers as well as dangers from within. At that time, France was attacking Mexico. The fight was long and hard. But Juárez and his followers finally won. They also finally solved their own problems. Their ideas for changing Mexico for the better were a success.

Juárez was the son of Zapotecan Indian farmers. He was born in Oaxaca, in southern Mexico, on March 21, 1806. When Benito was 13, he left home. He spoke only his Indian language. He found work harvesting grain. Then a bookbinder taught him to read Spanish. With the help of friends, Benito used his new skills to enter school. He went to a seminary to study Latin and philosophy. He finished in 1827, but he did not become a priest. Instead, he went to the Institute of Sciences and Arts. There he studied law. In 1834, he became a lawyer.

Juárez went back to Oaxaca to work. He helped the Indians win cases for their land. At the same time, Juárez began to take part in politics. He was elected to several offices in local and state government. He stood for reform. He wanted to make Mexican laws more fair. But these ideas were not yet accepted. People like Juárez were exiled. Benito fled to Cuba and then to New Orleans. But even away from Mexico, the reform leaders kept planning. And they finally won.

Benito Juárez did much for his country. He is called *Benemérito* of the Americas. The name is an honor given to those who serve their nation. Juárez died on July 18, 1872. His gift to Mexico can be described in his own words. He once said, "Peace is based on the willingness to respect the rights of others."

Working On Your Own

DIRECTIONS: After you have read the selection, read the questions below. Shade in the circle for the best answer to questions 1—7. Write the answers to questions 8 and 9.

1. The main idea of the selection is that _____.
   - ○ Benito Juárez couldn't read when he was a child
   - ○ Benito Juárez became president of Mexico by working for reforms
   - ○ Benito Juárez was an Indian

2. Antonyms are words that are opposite in meaning. Example: enter and leave. Which one of these words is an antonym for war?
   ○ dangerous ○ peace ○ willingness ○ fair

3. The paragraph that tells how Juárez got into school is number _____.
   ○ 1 ○ 2 ○ 3 ○ 4

4. Benito Juárez _____.

	True	False
worked for a while as a lawyer	○	○
fled to the United States at one time	○	○
lost Mexico to France	○	○

5. A school for people training to become priests or ministers is a _____.
   ○ seminary ○ success ○ philosophy ○ plan

6. Benito Juárez first worked in _____.
   ○ a bookstore ○ a school ○ the fields ○ politics

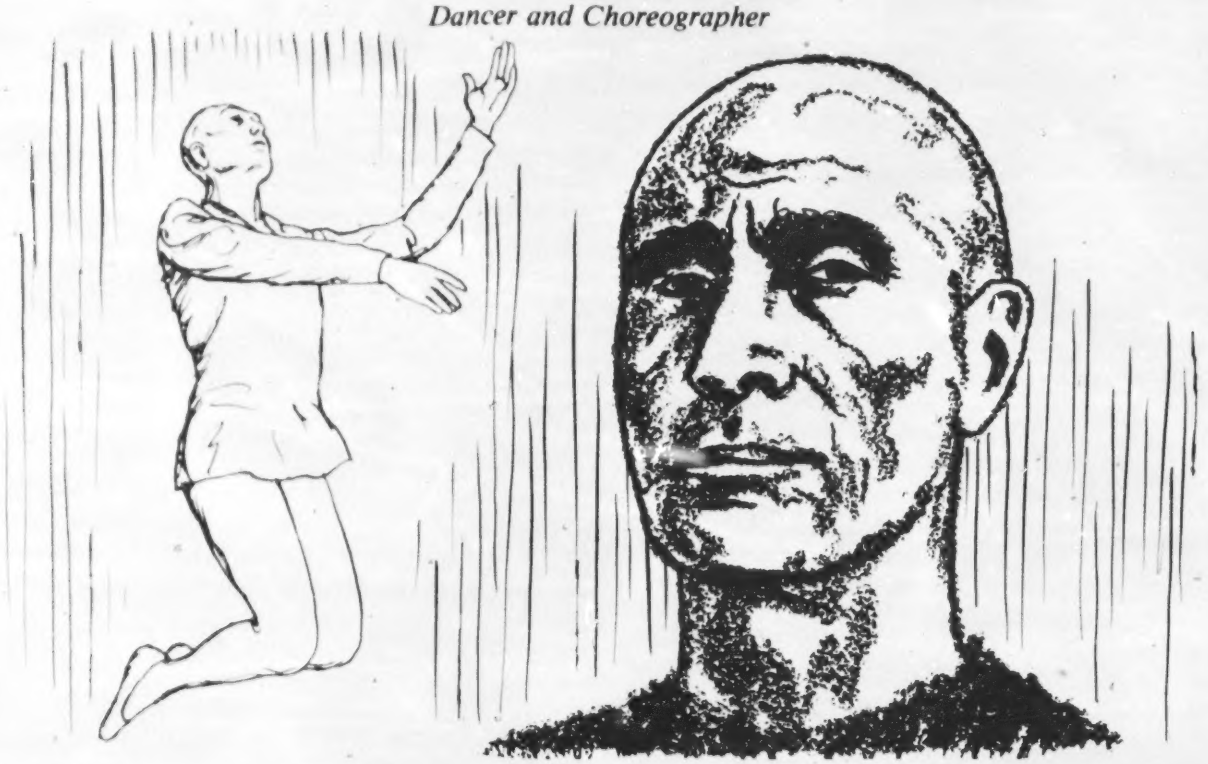
7. In paragraph three, the word cases means _____.
   ○ shelves for books ○ questions for a law court ○ coverings for a pillow

8. A suffix is a letter or group of letters added to the end of a word to change the meaning of the word. The suffix ment can mean "something that does." Example: statement means "something that states." Write the word from paragraph three that is formed with the suffix ment. _____ What does it mean? _____
   _____

9. Write the word from paragraph three that means "forced to leave one's country."
   _____

JOSE LIMON (1908-1972)

Dancer and Choreographer



Dancing is an art. Dancers must have strong bodies. And they must be able to move their bodies well. Choreographers create dances. They use the movements of the dancers to tell stories or express thoughts and feelings. The best Mexican-American dancer and choreographer was José Limón.

José was born in Culiacán, Mexico, in 1908. He came to the United States when he was seven years old. While José was growing up in California, he wanted to be a painter. He often dreamed of going to New York to study painting. But while he was still in high school, José saw his first ballet. The performance changed his mind. José decided to become a dancer.

José's first dance teachers were Doris Humphrey and Charles Weidman. But after several classes, José quit. He had doubts about his skill. He didn't stop for long, though. José had a deep desire to dance. After much hard work, he reached every dancer's goal. He had a strong body, and he could use it well. He was a forceful dancer, too. No one else could match his movements.

In 1930, José got together with a small group of dancers. They danced on Broadway and were called "The Little Group." Humphrey and Weidman were their directors. José danced with the group until 1940. Then he began to spend his time on choreography. He made up dances using ideas from the Bible, Shakespeare, Bach, and other sources. He always looked for something special. He once said, "I am very much interested in violent human emotions and in magnificent form . . . ."

José started his own dance company in 1946. He asked Humphrey to be director. José had also begun to teach dance. He taught at several colleges and at the Juilliard School.

In 1964, the New York State Council on the Arts named José to be head of The American Dance Theater. The following year, he won the Capezio Award. It was only one of the many honors given to him during his long career. In 1972, José Limón died. He was 64 years old.

Working On Your Own

DIRECTIONS: After you have read the selection, read the questions below. Shade in the circle for the best answer to questions 1—7. Write the answers to questions 8 and 9.

1. In paragraph one, the word well means _____.
   ○ not sick ○ in a good or right way ○ hole dug for water

2. The paragraph that tells where José got ideas for his dances is number _____.
   ○ 1 ○ 2 ○ 3 ○ 4 ○ 5 ○ 6

3. José Limón _____.

	True	False
always wanted to be a dancer	○	○
started his own dance company	○	○
came to the United States as a child	○	○

4. José Limón had a dancing career that was _____.
   ○ long ○ short ○ without honors ○ begun at age seven

5. Antonyms are words that are opposite in meaning. Example: long and short. Which one of these words is an antonym for weak?
   ○ small ○ special ○ strong ○ several

6. Something aimed or worked for is a _____.
   ○ goal ○ group ○ company ○ ballet

7. The main idea of this selection is that _____.
   ○ José Limón taught dance at the Juilliard School
   ○ José Limón became a well-known dancer and choreographer
   ○ José Limón quit dancing after a few classes

8. A suffix is a letter or group of letters added to the end of a word to change the meaning of the word. The suffix ful means "full of." Example: cheerful means "full of cheer." Write the word from paragraph three that is formed with the suffix ful. _____ What does it mean? _____
   _____

9. Write the word from paragraph one that means "make up." _____

RAFAEL MENDEZ (1906-)

Musician and Composer

Rafael Méndez was born on March 26, 1906, in the small village of Jiquilpán in Mexico. His father was a musician. He earned a living by giving music lessons and playing at weddings and parties. Then he decided to form a band with his family. Rafael was only five years old at the time. His arms were too short for most instruments. So Papa Méndez taught his son to play the trumpet.

The Mexican Revolution of 1911 touched the lives of many people. Jiquilpán was often attacked by revolutionaries. The village people made plans to stop them. Instead of fighting, the town decided to welcome the raiders with music and *fiestas*. The plan worked. Then, in 1916, General Pancho Villa came to Jiquilpán. He listened to Papa Méndez's band. Villa liked their music so much that he took the whole band with him when he left. After three months, most of the band was allowed to return home. Only young Rafael stayed with the general. Villa kept the boy to play the trumpet and the guitar for his soldiers. Months later, Rafael proudly returned to Jiquilpán. Villa had even sent six guards with him to make sure he got home safely.

In 1926, Rafael borrowed money from his uncle to get to the United States. He found a job in the steel mills of Gary, Indiana. After a while, Rafael realized that the work was making his hands stiff. He could hardly play his instruments. He decided right then to become a full-time musician. He didn't want anything to get in the way of his music. Unhappily, the Great Depression had put many people out of work. It was hard to get a job in a band. When winter came, Rafael gave up. He traded his trumpet for an overcoat.

When Rafael's big break did come, it was an accident. He was trying out a new trumpet in a store. Russ Morgan, a famous band leader, was across the street. He heard Rafael playing and went to meet him. The two men didn't need English to understand each other. Music was enough. Rafael became part of Morgan's band. He went on from there to become the best trumpet player ever. He played concerts all over the world. And in 1964, he was the first trumpet player to perform alone at Carnegie Hall.

There was trouble as well as success for Rafael. Twice he hurt his face badly in accidents. Each time, he had to learn to play the trumpet all over again. And each time, he fought his way back to the top. It's no wonder other famous trumpet players call Rafael Méndez "the greatest."

Working On Your Own

DIRECTIONS: After you have read the selection, read the questions below. Shade in the circle for the best answers to questions 1—7. Write the answers to questions 8 and 9.

1. Things that make musical sounds are _____.
   ○ arms ○ instruments ○ raiders ○ plans

2. The paragraph that tells what Rafael did when he first came to the United States is number _____.
   ○ 1 ○ 2 ○ 3 ○ 4 ○ 5

3. Antonyms are words that are opposite in meaning. Example: small and large. Which one of these words in an antonym for lend?
   ○ earn ○ decide ○ welcome ○ borrow

4. The main idea of the selection is that _____.
   ○ Rafael Méndez became the world's greatest trumpet player
   ○ Rafael Méndez played the trumpet for Pancho Villa's army
   ○ Rafael Méndez has played concerts all over the world

5. In paragraph one, the word band means _____.
   ○ to join together ○ a group of musicians ○ a stripe

6. Rafael Méndez _____.

	True	False
played the guitar as well as the trumpet	○	○
learned to play the trumpet from his father	○	○
never had trouble in his career	○	○

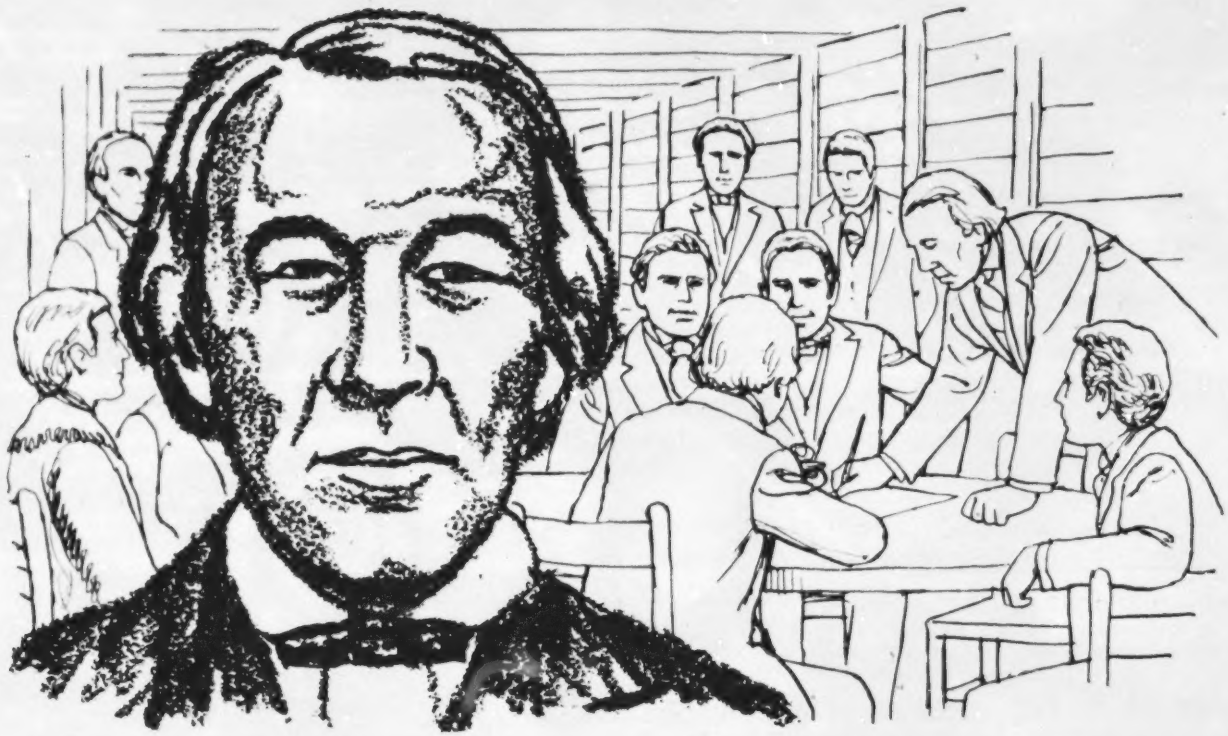
7. Rafael Méndez was so poor at one time that he traded his trumpet for _____.
   ○ a meal ○ an overcoat ○ a guitar ○ money

8. A suffix is a letter or group of letters added to the end of a word to change the meaning of the word. The suffix ian can mean "one who is skilled in something." Example: magician means "one who is skilled in magic." Write the word from paragraph three that is formed with the suffix ian. _____ What does it mean? _____

9. Write the word from paragraph two that means "people who watch over others and keep them from harm." _____

JOSE ANTONIO NAVARRO (1795-1871)

Mexican-Texan Patriot



Three Mexicans signed the Texas Declaration of Independence in 1836. José Antonio Navarro was one of them. This was not his first brave act in the cause of freedom. He had already supported Father Miguel Hidalgo in the fight for Mexican independence from Spain. Hidalgo had failed, and the Navarro family had suffered. But when Mexico finally gained its freedom, the Navarros stood proudly on the winning side.

José Antonio's father, Angel Navarro, had come to San Antonio from the island of Corsica. He married María Josefa Ruíz y Peña. On February 27, 1795, their son José Antonio was born. They sent him away to school when he was about ten. After José Antonio returned to San Antonio, he trained in business.

When Mexico became independent in 1821, its leaders wrote a constitution like that of the United States. José Antonio served in the new legislature. He still took part in business, too. He owned ranches, ran a general store, and practiced law. He also married and had seven children. But he always remembered his political responsibilities. In 1835, President Santa Anna set aside the Constitution of Mexico. The people of San Antonio were upset. They chose José Antonio and several others to go to a convention at Washington-on-the-Brazos. There José Antonio took part in the signing of the Texas Declaration of Independence. He then served the new government of the Republic of Texas. He finally left politics after Texas became part of the United States in 1845.

In 1846, the state of Texas named Navarro County in honor of José Antonio. The county seat, Corsicana, was named for his father's birthplace. José Antonio died on January 13, 1871. He had spent almost his entire lifetime in public service. Today, the Navarro Home in San Antonio is a state historic landmark.

Working On Your Own

DIRECTIONS: After you have read the selection, read the questions below. Shade in the circle for the best answer to questions 1—7. Write the answers to questions 8 and 9.

1. Antonyms are words that are opposite in meaning. Example: gained and lost. Which one of these words is an antonym for forgot?

   ○ supported ○ failed ○ wrote ○ remembered

2. José Antonio Navarro _____.

	True	False
had once been on Hidalgo's side	○	○
didn't have time to go to school	○	○
came from Corsica	○	○

3. Duties which require much attention are _____.

   ○ responsibilities ○ leaders ○ ranches ○ others

4. The paragraph that tells why Navarro signed the Texas Declaration of Independence is number _____.

   ○ 1 ○ 2 ○ 3 ○ 4

5. The main idea of the selection is that _____.

   ○ José Antonio Navarro worked in the United States Government
   ○ José Antonio Navarro served well the governments of both Mexico and the Republic of Texas
   ○ José Antonio Navarro was an excellent lawyer and had his business in San Antonio

6. In paragraph four, the word seat means _____.

   ○ a chair ○ to sit someone down ○ the center for a government

7. José Antonio Navarro left politics in _____.

   ○ 1836 ○ 1845 ○ 1846 ○ 1871

8. A prefix is a letter or group of letters added to the beginning of a word to change the meaning of the word. The prefix a can mean "at or to the." Example: ashore means "at or to the shore." Write the word from paragraph three that is formed with the prefix a. _____ What does it mean? _____

9. Write the word from paragraph four that means "having to do with history."

   _____

M. BERNARDINA OLIVARES (1940-)

Singer

Singing came easily to Maria Bernardina Olivares. She grew up in the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas. One of her favorite pastimes was singing with her older sisters on the front porch of their home. The neighbors were always delighted to hear her. Even then, her voice was rich and beautiful.

At first, Bernardina didn't want to study music. She didn't even join a choir until her last three years in high school. Then she sang with two groups. Her teacher helped her get a scholarship to North Texas State University. Bernardina began to study voice seriously. Her college teacher was a well-known opera singer, Mary McCormic. Professor McCormic made Bernardina work hard. She taught the young singer that music takes time and effort. During vacations, Bernardina sang on a local TV program. She became well known throughout the area.

When Professor McCormic stopped teaching, Bernardina changed schools. She went to the University of New Mexico. She was outstanding there as a student and as a singer. She won many awards. She also took part in concerts and opera workshops.

In 1967, Bernardina went to New York City. She continued her voice training with private teachers. With Carolina Segrera as her coach, she prepared for an international contest. It took place in Italy in 1973. There were 54 singers from 13 countries. Bernardina sang "The Song of the Willow" from *Otello* by Verdi. The judges liked it. One of them said that Bernardina's voice had the haunting sound of a viola. Bernardina won second prize.

In 1975, Bernardina visited the University of New Mexico. She gave a concert for students and her former teachers. It was a proud moment for the young singer. In New York, Bernardina sings professionally in several church choirs. She also continues performing for the public. In 1977, she gave a concert with another opera singer at Carnegie Hall. Bernardina Olivares is doing well in the world of opera.

Working On Your Own

DIRECTIONS: After you have read the selection, read the questions below. Shade in the circle for the best answer to questions 1—7. Write the answers to questions 8 and 9.

1. The paragraph that tells when Bernardina started really studying voice is number _____.

   ○ 1 ○ 2 ○ 3 ○ 4 ○ 5

2. In paragraph one, the word rich means _____.

   ○ having money ○ having a deep and pleasing color
   ○ having a full and pleasing sound

3. Bernardina Olivares _____.

	True	False
went to college on a scholarship	○	○
won first prize at a singing contest in Italy in 1973	○	○
has sung at Carnegie Hall	○	○

4. Bernardina Olivares sings mostly _____.

   ○ rock songs ○ at home ○ opera ○ in nightclubs

5. Synonyms are words that have the same, or almost the same, meaning. Example: also and too. Which one of these words is a synonym for pretty?

   ○ haunting ○ delighted ○ beautiful ○ proud

6. A trained group of singers is a _____.

   ○ workshop ○ choir ○ concert ○ contest

7. The main idea of the selection is that _____.

   ○ Bernardina Olivares sang on a TV program
   ○ Bernardina Olivares has studied voice for many years
   ○ Bernardina Olivares is an up-and-coming opera singer

8. A suffix is a letter or group of letters added to the end of a word to change the meaning of the word. The suffix er can mean "someone who does." Example: teacher means "someone who teaches." Write the word from paragraph three that is formed with the suffix er. _____ What does it mean? _____

9. Write the word from paragraph one that means "people who live near one another."

   _____

GRACIELA GIL OLIVAREZ (1928-)

Public Administrator

In the spring of 1977, President Jimmy Carter made an announcement. He said that Graciela Olivárez would have an important job in the national government. She would be Director of the Community Services Administration. On May 13, the president watched as Mrs. Olivárez took the oath of office in the Rose Garden of the White House.

For Graciela, the long road to Washington had begun in the desert country of Arizona. Graciela is the daughter of a Mexican-Irish mother and a Spanish father. She was born on March 9, 1928, in a small mining town near Phoenix. It was the time of the Great Depression. Everyone was very poor. But Graciela's family at least had enough to eat. Her grandmother knew a lot about wild foods. She often took the children to the desert. There they gathered things that were good to eat. They took home acorns, berries, wild onions, cactus leaves, and ripe cactus fruit.

When Graciela was 16 years old, the family moved to Phoenix. Going to a large city high school frightened Graciela. She dropped out and went to business college instead. Then Graciela got a job. She became the first woman disc jockey in Phoenix. Later, she went to another radio station as a secretary. But she didn't stop there. She worked her way up until she was the director of programs for women.

In the 1960s, Graciela worked hard for civil rights. At one rally, she met the president of Notre Dame University. Graciela impressed him with her intelligence and her deep concern for others. He invited her to go to law school at Notre Dame. Graciela told him that she had not finished high school. But the president asked her to come anyway. She did. And in 1970, Graciela became the first woman to graduate from the law school.

After Notre Dame, Graciela returned to the Southwest. For a while, she taught at the law school of the University of New Mexico. She also worked for the local and state governments. Then, in 1975, she became Director of Planning for the State of New Mexico.

In 1977, Graciela appeared on the "Today" show. She said that above all she did not want her life to stand still. Ever since she left the desert land of Arizona, Graciela Olivárez has shown that she is determined to make things happen.

Working On Your Own

DIRECTIONS: After you have read the selection, read the questions below. Shade in the circle for the best answer to questions 1—7. Write the answers to questions 8 and 9.

1. Antonyms are words that are opposite in meaning. Example: city and country. Which one of these words is an antonym for most?

   ○ least ○ long ○ important ○ first

2. The main idea of the selection is that _____.

   ○ Graciela Olivárez grew up in desert country
   ○ Graciela Olivárez was the first woman to graduate from the law school of Notre Dame
   ○ Graciela Olivárez has worked her way up to important jobs in government

3. The paragraph that tells how Graciela's family got food during the Great Depression is number _____.

   ○ 1 ○ 2 ○ 3 ○ 4 ○ 5 ○ 6

4. A person who talks and plays music on a radio show is a _____.

   ○ secretary ○ president ○ disc jockey ○ lawyer

5. Graciela Gil Olivárez _____.

	True	False
never finished high school	○	○
was rich as a child	○	○
never lived in a city	○	○

6. In 1977, Graciela Olivárez got an important job in _____ government.

   ○ local ○ state ○ national ○ city

7. In paragraph one, the word office means _____.

   ○ a place of business ○ a public job ○ a service or favor

8. A suffix is a letter or group of letters added to the end of a word to change the meaning of the word. The suffix or means "someone who does." Example: visitor means "someone who visits." Write the word from paragraph three that is formed with the suffix or. _____ What does it mean? _____

   _____

9. Write the word from paragraph four that means "a meeting to get people excited about something." _____

JIM PLUNKETT (1947-)

Football Quarterback

Jim Plunkett's parents met at a school for the blind in New Mexico. His mother had become blind when she was 20. His father had gone blind little by little. But both were independent people. They married and had 3 children. Jim is their youngest child and their only son. He was born on December 5, 1947.

The Plunketts lived in San Jose, California. Everyone in the family had to work. Young Jim delivered newspapers, cut grass, and weeded gardens. He worked every chance he got. But that didn't stop him from doing other things as well. Even in the fifth grade, Jim was learning football skills. By the time he was in the eighth grade, he knew he could really throw a ball. Jim was good in other sports, too. He took part in wrestling, baseball, track, and basketball. But it was his football record that made him well known throughout the area. In his last year at high school, the football team did not lose a single game.

People from colleges and universities came to see Jim play. Several of them offered him a scholarship. Jim chose Stanford University. He wanted to study political science. In return, he made the Stanford football team a winner. In 1970, Jim won the Heisman Trophy. This award is given to the best college football player in the country.

After college, Jim began playing pro football. He played for the New England Patriots. Sportswriters named him "Rookie of the Year." With Jim as their leader, the Patriots got into the playoffs for the Super Bowl. Then, in 1976, Jim moved back home to California. He was traded to the San Francisco 49ers. He was hurt that year, but the fans were glad to have him as their top quarterback.

Jim Plunkett often talks to groups of Mexican-American young people. He knows how hard it can be to get to the top. His advice is always the same: don't drop out of school, study hard, and you'll succeed.

Working On Your Own

DIRECTIONS: After you have read the selection, read the questions below. Shade in the circle for the best answer to questions 1—7. Write the answers to questions 8 and 9.

1. The main idea of the selection is that _____.
   - ○ Jim Plunkett played football at Stanford University
   - ○ Jim Plunkett has played pro football in the East and in the West
   - ○ Jim Plunkett is an outstanding quarterback

2. Money given to help someone pay for school is a _____.
   ○ grade ○ scholarship ○ rookie ○ skill

3. In 1976, Jim went back to play in _____.
   ○ New England ○ New Mexico ○ California ○ Connecticut

4. Synonyms are words that have the same, or almost the same, meaning. Example: throw and toss. Which one of these words is a synonym for happy?
   ○ winner ○ hurt ○ hard ○ glad

5. Jim Plunkett _____.

	True	False
was good at several sports	○	○
didn't play well for the Patriots	○	○
wanted to study political science	○	○

6. In paragraph two, the word track means _____.
   ○ path ○ running and jumping sports ○ footprint

7. The paragraph that tells about Jim playing football in college is number _____.
   ○ 1 ○ 2 ○ 3 ○ 4 ○ 5

8. A prefix is a letter or group of letters added to the beginning of a word to change the meaning of the word. The prefix in means "not." Example: incomplete means "not complete." Write the word from paragraph one that is formed with the prefix in. _____ What does it mean? _____
   _____

9. Write the word from paragraph one that means "unable to see." _____

ANTHONY QUINN (1915-)

Actor

Near the beginning of the Mexican Revolution, Francisco Quinn and his wife, Manuela Oaxaca, joined Pancho Villa's army. Their son, Antonio, was born away from the battleground on April 21, 1915. When the boy was less than three years old, he and his mother hid in the coal car of a train to get to the United States border. Francisco met them in El Paso, Texas. There, Manuela worked cleaning houses and washing clothes. Francisco left to work in the steel mills of Pennsylvania. He was half-Irish and spoke excellent English. But he soon returned to Texas to take his family to Glamis, California. Both Antonio's parents worked on a track crew for the railroad. So his grandmother took care of him and his sister, Stella.

Next, the Quinn family moved to Los Angeles. As Tony grew up, his father taught him about the importance of work. His mother gave him a love of reading and learning. Then, in 1925, Tony's father was killed by a car. His mother married again, and Tony and Stella went to live with their grandmother.

Tony wanted to do well in everything he tried. For a while, he was a boxer. Then he cut meat, was an electrician's helper, and worked as a clean-up person at a meat-packing plant. He also sold newspapers, shined shoes, picked fruit, drove a taxi, and washed windows and floors.

After a while, though, Tony turned to acting. He appeared in Noel Coward's play *Hay Fever*. Then he joined a group of actors called The Gateway Players. Finally, he began to act in movies. His first part was in *Paroles for Sale*. He had no words to speak, and he was only on the screen for about 45 seconds. But the critics really liked him. And Tony was able to land a big part next time. He played the Cheyenne warrior in *The Plainsman*. From then on, Tony's roles got better and better. He was in many famous movies, from *Viva Zapata!* to *Zorba the Greek*. Over the years, he also won two Academy Award Oscars for his work. Anthony Quinn is truly a star.

Working On Your Own

DIRECTIONS: After you have read the selection, read the questions below. Shade in the circle for the best answer to questions 1—7. Write the answers to questions 8 and 9.

1. Anthony Quinn _____.

	True	False
was born in Texas	○	○
was once a boxer	○	○
has won acting awards	○	○

2. A group of people who work together is a _____.

○ crew ○ role ○ screen ○ battleground

3. The main idea of the selection is that _____.

○ after trying many jobs, Anthony Quinn became a movie star
○ Anthony Quinn was brought up by his grandmother
○ Anthony Quinn starred in *Zorba the Greek*

4. Antonyms are words that are opposite in meaning. Example: won and lost. Which one of these words is an antonym for worse?

○ less ○ away ○ better ○ really

5. Anthony Quinn first acted in a _____.

○ newspaper ○ play ○ movie ○ taxi

6. The paragraph that tells how Anthony Quinn got his first big part is number _____.

○ 1 ○ 2 ○ 3 ○ 4

7. In paragraph four, the word land means _____.

○ earth ○ bring an airplane down ○ get

8. A suffix is a letter or group of letters added to the end of a word to change the meaning of the word. The suffix er means "one who does." Example: boxer means "one who boxes." Write another word from paragraph three that is formed with the suffix er. _____ What does it mean? _____

9. Write the word from paragraph one that means "very good." _____

RUBEN SALAZAR (1928-1970)

Journalist

Reporter Rubén Salazar's life ended suddenly on the night of August 29, 1970. He was covering a story for the *Los Angeles Times*. Mexican Americans had come to Los Angeles from all over the Southwest. They were protesting the high number of Mexican Americans who had died in the Vietnam War. Salazar was talking to people in a cafe. Police fired tear-gas bombs into the crowd. One of the bombs tore through a wall of the cafe. It hit Salazar and killed him instantly.

Salvador Salazar and Luz Chávez had brought their son Rubén to Texas in 1929. He had been born the year before in Chihuahua, Mexico. Rubén grew up in El Paso. In 1949, he became a United States citizen. And in 1954, he finished school at the University of Texas at El Paso.

Salazar began his newspaper work for the *Santa Rosa Press Democrat*. In 1957, he switched to the *San Francisco News*. He worked there for twelve years. Then he moved to southern California and took a job with the *Los Angeles Times*. He was the paper's war reporter at the battlefront in Vietnam. When he came home, he started to work to improve conditions for Mexican Americans in Los Angeles.

As a newspaper writer, Salazar spoke out freely. He often looked at the news from a Mexican-American viewpoint. One of his main worries was that Mexican-American children were not getting a fair chance in school. After Salazar's death, many of his stories were printed again. He became a symbol to people that a reporter telling the facts could help bring about change. He will always be remembered as a leader in protecting the rights of Mexican Americans.

Working On Your Own

DIRECTIONS: After you have read the selection, read the questions below. Shade in the circle for the best answer to questions 1—7. Write the answers to questions 8 and 9.

1. A small eating place is a _____.
   ○ story ○ cafe ○ viewpoint ○ symbol

2. In paragraph four, the word fair means _____.
   ○ clean and pretty ○ pale and smooth ○ just and honest

3. Rubén Salazar _____.

	True	False
went to Vietnam	○	○
wrote from the Mexican-American viewpoint	○	○
did not become a U.S. citizen	○	○

4. Rubén Salazar was a reporter for a _____.
   ○ magazine ○ newspaper ○ radio station ○ TV station

5. The paragraph that tells about Rubén Salazar's death is number _____.
   ○ 1 ○ 2 ○ 3 ○ 4

6. The main idea of the selection is that _____.
   ○ Rubén Salazar came from Chihuahua, Mexico
   ○ Rubén Salazar was a brave and honest reporter who was killed on the job
   ○ Rubén Salazar studied at a university and then worked for several different papers

7. Antonyms are words that are opposite in meaning. Example: high and low. Which one of these words is an antonym for never?
   ○ before ○ over ○ always ○ again

8. A suffix is a letter or group of letters added to the end of a word to change the meaning of the word. The suffix ly means "in this way." Example: suddenly means "in a sudden way." Write the word from paragraph four that is formed with the suffix ly. _____ What does it mean? _____

9. Write the word from paragraph three that means "make better." _____

CARLOS M. TERAN (1915-)

Judge

Judge Carlos M. Terán of Pomona, California, has said, "I believe that the door of opportunity is open for every person in America. . . ." He also believes that people's backgrounds are not as important as their willingness to work for what they want.

Judge Terán's statements are based on his own struggle for success. He was born in El Paso, Texas, on November 4, 1915. Four years later, his family moved to Los Angeles, California. In high school, Carlos took part in many activities. He played football, entered speech contests, acted in the class play, and was president of several clubs. Carlos was also chosen to be the main speaker at graduation. His activities and honors gave Carlos confidence to reach out for higher goals.

Carlos went to college for two years. Then he joined the Air Force. After his discharge from the service, Carlos finished college. Later, he got a doctor of law degree from the University of Southern California. In 1949, Terán became a lawyer. Eight years later, he became a judge of the Municipal Court of Los Angeles County.

But Judge Terán was interested in more than law. He especially enjoyed working with young people. In 1960, he was chosen to represent California at the White House Conference on Children and Youth. Later, he served four times on the California Governor's Advisory Committee on Children and Youth. And in 1970, he founded the Pomona Boys' Club. Judge Terán has tried to use all these opportunities to find new ways to help young people help themselves.

In 1959, the governor of California recognized Carlos Terán's special skills and abilities. He made Terán a judge of the Superior Court of Los Angeles County. And Judge Terán has continued to show his concern for youth both inside his courtroom and outside it.

Working On Your Own

DIRECTIONS: After you have read the selection, read the questions below. Shade in the circle for the best answer to questions 1—7. Write the answers to questions 8 and 9.

1. The paragraph that tells about what Carlos Terán did in high school is number _____.

   ○ 1 ○ 2 ○ 3 ○ 4 ○ 5

2. Carlos Terán _____.

	True	False
became a lawyer	○	○
takes a special interest in young people	○	○
grew up in New York	○	○

3. Synonyms are words that have the same, or almost the same, meaning. Example: find and discover. Which one of these words is a synonym for aid?

   ○ help ○ law ○ speech ○ show

4. The main idea of the selection is that _____.

   ○ Carlos Terán played football and gave speeches
   ○ Carlos Terán has served his community as a judge with special knowledge about children's problems
   ○ Carlos Terán was sent to the White House in 1960 after he founded the Pomona Boys' Club

5. A good chance to do something is an _____.

   ○ inside ○ interest ○ opportunity ○ activity

6. In paragraph four, the word served means _____.

   ○ did work for ○ gave dinner ○ was enough for

7. Carlos Terán works in a _____.

   ○ courtroom ○ play ○ high school ○ club

8. A suffix is a letter or group of letters added to the end of a word to change the meaning of the word. The suffix er means "one who does." Example: player means "one who plays." Write the word from paragraph two that is formed with the suffix er. _____ What does it mean? _____

9. Write the word from paragraph two that means "belief and pride." _____

LEE TREVIÑO (1939-)

Golf Champion

In 1971, Lee Treviño became the only pro golfer to win three important championships in one year. He won the United States Open, the Canadian National Open, and the British National Open. But getting to be one of the best wasn't easy for Lee.

Lee was born in Dallas, Texas, on December 1, 1939. He never knew his father. He and his two sisters were brought up by their mother and grandfather. Like many poor Mexican-American children, Lee dropped out of school early to get a job. The family needed his help.

Golf was already part of Lee's life when he was only five years old. His uncle gave him a rusty, old golf club. The young boy spent hours knocking around golf balls with it. When Lee was a little older, he would sneak into a nearby golf club to practice. One day the owner of the club saw him. The owner thought that the eight-year-old boy looked good. He told Lee that with hard work he might be able to become a pro. The owner gave Lee his first set of clubs. He also gave the boy a job. Lee worked at many chores and was also a caddie. Each day he spent his free time practicing.

Golf was still on Lee's mind when he joined the United States Marines in 1955. With a borrowed set of clubs, he played for his division's golf team. Lee did so well that the Marines put him in a special branch. He played golf for them regularly. And Lee decided to make the sport his life's work.

After Lee left the Marines, he got a job back at his hometown golf club. He gave golf lessons, cut grass, picked up balls, and did other general work. But Lee found it hard to be a pro golfer in Dallas. Other players didn't like his Mexican-American background. So Lee moved to El Paso with his wife and two children. There he got a job at another country club. For all his work, he made only thirty dollars a week.

Lee's big chance finally came in 1967. He won the West Texas trials for the United States Open. It was a big step. From then on, Lee was on his way to the top.

Lee has always been a generous winner. For example, when he won the British Open in 1971, he gave more than a third of his prize money to an English orphanage. Lee Treviño is still a warm person today. The hard times he went through did not make him bitter. And the good times have not made him any less friendly or caring.

Working On Your Own

DIRECTIONS: After you have read the selection, read the questions below. Shade in the circle for the best answer to questions 1—7. Write the answers to questions 8 and 9.

1. Antonyms are words that are opposite in meaning. Example: easy and hard. Which of these words is an antonym for late?

   ○ hours ○ early ○ first ○ special

2. The main idea of the selection is that _____.

   ○ Lee Treviño won three championships in 1971
   ○ Lee Treviño worked hard to become a golf champion
   ○ Lee Treviño is generous

3. Small jobs or tasks are _____.

   ○ chores ○ dollars ○ children ○ clubs

4. The paragraph that tells about how Lee Treviño started in golf is number _____.

   ○ 1 ○ 2 ○ 3 ○ 4 ○ 5 ○ 6 ○ 7

5. Before Lee Treviño became a pro golfer, he played for _____.

   ○ El Paso ○ the Marines ○ Canada ○ Britain

6. Lee Treviño _____.

	True	False
is generous with his prize money	○	○
started playing golf when he was a teenager	○	○
first started winning big in 1967	○	○

7. In paragraph four, the word set means _____.

   ○ get hard ○ things that are used together ○ TV machine

8. A suffix is a letter or group of letters added to the end of a word to change the meaning of the word. The suffix y means "full of." Example: cloudy means "full of clouds." Write the word from paragraph three that is formed with the suffix y. _____ What does it mean? _____

9. Write the word from paragraph three that means "move in a sly or secret way." _____

RALPH H. VIGIL (1932-)

Teacher and Historian

In the 1870s, Marcos Vigil left Ranchos de Taos, New Mexico. He traveled north into the high country and founded a small town. He called it Vigil. It stood in the shadow of the Great Divide in what was to be the state of Colorado. The town is gone now. Only the churchyard where Marcos and his family are buried is left. But it was in Vigil that Marcos's great-grandson Ralph was born on September 16, 1932. The boy's father was Miguel Antonio Vigil, and his mother was Raquel García de Noriega.

When Ralph was four years old, his mother died. It was during the Great Depression. Ralph's father needed work. So he took all seven of his children to Trinidad, Colorado. They were very poor. Miguel worked on cattle ranches, in coal mines, wherever he could. Before this, the children had spoken only Spanish. Now they began to learn English, too. Ralph studied especially hard in school. He realized even then how important an education could be.

When Ralph finished high school, he moved to Washington, D.C. He took a job as a clerk typist. Soon he decided to join the United States Air Force. While Ralph was stationed in El Paso, Texas, he took a few college classes at night. After he left the Air Force, he went home to Colorado to attend college full time. He supported himself by doing odd jobs in the cafeteria. Then he changed schools, moving to Tacoma, Washington. He graduated in 1958 with honors. He became a teacher next. But he kept on taking courses, too. And, in 1969, he earned his doctor's degree at the University of New Mexico.

Over the years, Dr. Vigil taught history at universities in Kansas, California, and Texas. In 1973, he went to the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. During this time, he wrote a book about colonial Mexico. Dr. Vigil's career shows that success comes to those who don't give up.

Working On Your Own

DIRECTIONS: After you have read the selection, read the questions below. Shade in the circle for the best answer to questions 1—7. Write the answers to questions 8 and 9.

1. Ralph Vigil served in the United States _____.
   ○ Army ○ Navy ○ Marines ○ Air Force

2. Which paragraph tells about the town of Vigil?
   ○ 1 ○ 2 ○ 3 ○ 4

3. The main idea of the selection is that _____.
   ○ Ralph Vigil's grandfather founded a town
   ○ after a tough time, Ralph Vigil became a successful teacher and historian
   ○ Ralph Vigil went to several different colleges

4. In paragraph one, the word called means _____.
   ○ cried out ○ telephoned ○ named

5. Ralph H. Vigil _____.

	True	False
spoke only Spanish as a child	○	○
always worked as a teacher	○	○
has written a history book	○	○

6. Antonyms are words that are opposite in meaning. Example: north and south. Which one of these words is an antonym for finished?
   ○ stood ○ began ○ needed ○ studied

7. Pits or holes dug in the earth to get out something are _____.
   ○ mines ○ ranches ○ courses ○ classes

8. A suffix is a letter or group of letters added to the end of a word to change the meaning of the word. The suffix ist means "someone who does." Example: cyclist means "someone who cycles." Write the word from paragraph three that is formed with the suffix ist. _____ What does it mean? _____
   _____

9. Write the word from paragraph one that means "started or began something."
   _____

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE for Spanish Names and Words

Robert J. Acosta
(ah-KOHS-tah)

Romana Acosta Bañuelos
(roh-MAH-nah ah-KOHS-tah bah-nyeh-WHAY-lohs)
Sonora (soh-NOH-rah)
Chihuahua (chee-WAH-wah)
Alejandro (ah-leh-HAHN-droh)

Cantinflas/Mario Moreno
(kahn-TEEN-flahs/MAH-ree-oh moh-RAY-noh)
carpa (KAHR-pah)
callate (KÁH-yah-tay)

Vikki Carr
barrios (BAH-ree-ohs)
Florencia Bisenta de Casillas Martínez Cardona (floh-RAYN-see-ah bee-SAYN-tah DAY kah-SEE-yahs mahr-TEE-nes kar-DOH-nah)
Pepe (PEH-peh)

Carlos Eduardo Castañeda
(KAR-lohs eh-DWAHR-doh kahs-tah-NYAY-dah)
Junípero Serra (hoo-NEE-peh-roh SAY-rah)
Camargo (kah-MAHR-goh)

Raúl H. Castro
(rah-OOL KAHS-troh)
Sonora (soh-NOH-rah)
El Salvador (EL SAHL-vah-door)
Bolivia (boh-LEE-vee-ah)

Manuel Antonio Chaves
(mahn-WEL ahn-TOH-nee-oh CHAH-ves)
San Mateo (SAHN mah-TAY-oh)
Cebolleta (seh-boh-YAY-tah)
El leoncito (EL lay-ohn-SEE-toh)
Glorieta (gloh-ree-AY-tah)

César Estrada Chávez
(SAY-sahr ehs-TRAH-dah CHAH-ves)
barrio (BAH-ree-oh)
Sal si puedes (SAHL SEE PWAY-days)

Dennis Chávez
(CHAH-ves)
Dionisio (dee-oh-NEE-see-oh)
Los Chávez (LOHS CHAH-ves)

José Cisneros
(hoh-SAY sees-NAY-rohs)
Durango (doo-RAH-ngoh)
Ciudad Juárez (see-oo-DAHD HWAH-res)

Josefa Ortiz de Domínguez
(hoh-SAY-fah ohr-TEES DAY doh-MEE-nges)
La corregidora (LAH koh-reh-hee-DOH-rah)
Miguel (mee-GEHL)
Corregidor (koh-reh-hee-DOHR)
Querétaro (kay-RAY-tah-roh)
corregir (koh-reh-HEER)
Doña (DOH-nyah)
Benemérita de la patria (beh-neh-MAY-ree-tah DAY LAH PAH-tree-ah)

Patrick Fernández Flores
(fayr-NAHN-des FLOH-res)
Benito Juárez (bay-NEE-toh HWAH-res)
César Chávez (SAY-sahr CHAH-ves)
mariachi (mah-ree-AH-chee)

Clotilde P. García
(kloh-TEEL-day gahr-SEE-ah)

Severo Gómez
(seh-VAY-roh GOH-mes)

Richard (Pancho) Gonzales
(PAHN-choh gohn-SAH-les)
Alonso (ah-LOHN-soh)
Señora (seh-NYOH-rah)

Henry B. González
(gohn-SAH-les)
La Prensa (LAH PREHN-sah)
Cantinflas (kahn-TEEN-flahs)
barrios (BAH-ree-ohs)

Rodolfo P. Hernández
(roh-DOHL-foh ayr-NAHN-des)

Miguel Hidalgo
(mee-GEHL ee-DAHL-goh)
y Costilla (EE kohs-TEE-yah)
Guanajuato (gwah-nah-HWAH-toh)
El zorro (EL ZOH-roh)
Dolores (doh-LOH-res)
Grito de (GREE-toh DAY)

Benito Juárez
(beh-NEE-toh HWAH-res)
Oaxaca (oh-ah-HAH-kah)
Benemérito (beh-neh-MAY-ree-toh)

José Limón
(hoh-SAY lee-MOHN)
Culiacán (koo-lee-ah-KAHN)

Rafael Méndez
(rah-fah-YEL MEHN-des)
Jiquilpan (hee-keel-PAHN)
fiestas (fee-EHS-tahs)
Pancho Villa (PAHN-choh VEE-yah)

José Antonio Navarro
(hoh-SAY ahn-TOH-nee-oh nah-VAH-roh)
Miguel Hidalgo (mee-GEHL ee-DAHL-goh)
Angel (AHNG-hel)
María Josefa Ruíz y Peña (mah-REE-ah hoh-SAY-fah roo-EES EE PAY-nyah)
Santa Anna (SAHN-tah AH-nah)
Brazos (BRAH-sohs)

M. Bernardina Olivares
(behr-nahr-DEE-nah oh-lee-VAH-res)
Maria (mah-REE-ah)
Carolina Segrera (kah-roh-LEE-nah seh-GRAY-rah)

Graciela Gil Olivárez
(grah-see-AY-lah HEEL oh-lee-VAH-res)

Jim Plunkett

Anthony Quinn
(KWIHN)
Francisco (frahn-SEES-koh)
Manuela Oaxaca (mahn-WAY-lah oh-ah-HAH-kah)
Pancho Villa (PAHN-choh VEE-yah)
Antonio (ahn-TOH-nee-oh)
"Viva Zapata!" (VEE-vah sah-PAH-tah)

Rubén Salazar
(roo-BAYN sah-lah-SAHR)
Salvador (sal-vah-DOHR)
Luz Chávez (LOOS CHAH-ves)
Chihuahua (chee-WAH-wah)

Carlos M. Terán
(KAHR-lohs teh-RAHN)

Lee Treviño
(tray-VEE-nyoh)

Ralph H. Vigil
(vee-HEEL)
Marcos (MAHR-kos)
Ranchos de Taos (RAHN-chohs DAY TAH-ohs)
Miguel Antonio (mee-GEHL ahn-TOH-nee-oh)
Raquel García de Noriega (rah-KAYL gahr-SEE-ah DAY noh-ree-AY-gah)